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MINISTERS OF ENTENTE POWERS ARE CONSIDERING REPLY TO PROPOSAL MADE BY GERMANY AND HER ALLIES

Answer Has Been Prepared in Paris and is Subject of Discussion; London Press Comments on Berlin's Note to President Wilson; Regarded as Showing Germany's Eagerness to End War

London, Dec. 27.—Communications continue to pass between the capitals of the entente allied nations regarding the reply to be made to the peace proposals of the central powers and their allies. The answer has been prepared in Paris and is now the subject of discussion between the various ministers.

It is unlikely that any steps will be taken by Great Britain and the other countries of the entente with regard to President Wilson's note and its Swiss counterpart until the entente allies have dealt with the German proposals. It is understood here that the reply does not give specific terms, but refers generally to the objects of the allies. Those participating in the discussion speak of the difficulty of expressing the general purposes in concrete form so that the reply may be definitely responsive and at the same time convey to neutral countries an adequate idea of the aims and purposes for which the entente allies are contending.

The reason for not stating the specific terms is said here to be that the terms of the allies largely depend upon the extent of the military victory which they confidently expect and that any statement of terms now would be upon the existing military and territorial situation which the German imperial chancellor, Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, claimed was based on a German victory. Therefore it is held that Germany is in a position to state her terms, whereas the entente terms become definite when military successes have been achieved.

Press Comments.
London, Dec. 27.—The promptness of Germany's reply to President Wilson's note is characterized by the Evening News as evidence of Germany's eagerness to bring the war to an end.

The Standard says: "It would be a mistake to neglect the German peace manoeuvres, but it would be even more fatal to waste time over them. We trust the government will give President Wilson a perfectly courteous but also a definite reply, and then go on with the war as energetically as possible."

The Evening Star says: "Germany has replied in hot haste. She is working the Wilson note for all it is worth. She is trying to make peace by wireless. The contrast between her panting precipitancy and the allies' leisurely languor is great."

"There is grave, urgent need for cool wisdom and bold leadership in the circumstances. We note with alarm the growing disposition in certain quarters to make bad blood between the British and German game and must be stopped dead. There must be no mercy for lunatics who are ready to poison Anglo-American relationships. Let us make a stand against the colossal ineptitude of misrepresenting and misunderstanding President Wilson's note."

Whitewash for Germany.
The Pall Mall Gazette says: "Germany has not been slow to seize the advantages given her by President Wilson's address of diplomacy. It would be a real triumph for Germany to have herself recognized as the wireless puller of the power whose citizens her submarines drowned with impunity and which lectured her in the name of all cardinal virtues. It would teach the world that by letting the Americans do the talking Germany understands how to get her own way eventually in the sphere of practical politics."

"The studied impartiality of the American note supplies Germany with a coat of whitewash, of which she was badly in need."
"Germany proposes an immediate conference of belligerents, which appears to her to be the most promising way of promoting a fissure in the entente. The allies have only one possible attitude to this: namely, they will hold no discussion with an unpunished criminal or with a power whose most solemn engagements are mere scraps of paper. If Mr. Wilson's real object was to elicit a plain statement of the aims and terms of both sides, Berlin's answer shows that he failed."

"It did not require a note to procure a plain statement of the allied cause. Upon the German side the invitation meets with summary dismissal. The ill-conceived note has been frustrated and the most dignified course now would be for German withdrawal."
Must Define Terms.
The Westminster Gazette says: "For two or three days, the pretence was kept up that the American proposals were an unfriendly attempt to 'snatch the prize of victory' from the German people, but this clearly is not at all the view of the German government, which sees in it a welcome opportunity to improve the occasion and at the same time push forward its own proposal for stopping the war. President Wilson is not to blame for this and

QUEBEC MONASTERY IS DESTROYED BY FIRE

Montreal, Dec. 27.—The famed monastery of the Trappist Monks at Oka, Que., was burned to the ground this morning. The fire started about 3 o'clock and at 7 o'clock the immense building had been completely destroyed. The burned structure contained the chapel, library, with valuable manuscripts, etc., and the loss is estimated at about \$250,000. There was no loss of life. The cheese and agricultural and experimental farm buildings operated by the monks were saved.

GERMANS SHORT OF RESERVE TROOPS

Soldiers Serving in Trenches Are Pushed to Limit of Endurance

ALLIES HAMMERING AT THE ENEMY LINES

Gen. Nivelle Has Inaugurated Vigorous System of Counter Attacks

London, Dec. 27.—(By Arthur S. Draper.) Heavy artillery and minor infantry activity continued along the front during Christmas night and yesterday. All idea of a Christmas truce was abandoned by the Germans when the sharp patrol assaults with which the British and French troops began the day kept up till midnight without a breathing spell.

Although these efforts failed to win the allied forces any advantage, Berlin announcing the "repeated repulse of strong British patrol advances," the constant hammering at the vulnerable spots in their defenses evidently is taking effect on the nerves of the German troops. Never knowing where the attack is coming from and whether it means a small operation or another big push such as Nivelle's victory on the Meuse has prepared them for, the Kaiser's soldiers are obtaining little relaxation from the fearful strain of trench warfare.

Prisoners taken by the allied troops testify to the embarrassing lack of fresh troops behind the German lines. Not only are the soldiers pushed to the limit of endurance when they occupy the trenches, but their relief from duty is steadily being cut short for want of troops to take their places, according to reliable reports from the front.

The only members of the allied air forces to celebrate Christmas in their pilots' seats were ten French fliers who poured shells on the enemy's posts at Neale, Ourcamp and Chapitro.

German Morale Suffers.
From talks I have had with English officers here on Furlough for the holidays, I am convinced that the German morale has suffered severely within the last month and that nothing will prevent the allied armies on the west front from smashing forward along a considerable front and forcing corresponding retirement of the enemy along the entire line.

"What has been accomplished by the Anglo-French forces can be done again," said an officer to me. "We are organized, and we have sufficient artillery for another push along the entire front. We will be able to break through along a line of say seven miles, capture guns and consolidate ourselves in a position to menace the entire German front. This will force the enemy to retire generally to a position which will straighten their line."

The regime of Nivelle has already borne fruit in a vigorous system of counter-attacks which shift the burden of defence upon the enemy. The entire ring of forts at Verdun has been retaken and it is understood that these tactics will be extended to the whole French front.

STRIVING TO SETTLE IRISH QUESTION

Informal Consultations Are Proceeding Says Manchester Guardian

London, Dec. 27.—Informal discussions and consultations are proceeding for settlement of the Irish question, says the Manchester Guardian.
New proposals which are being considered provide for something in the nature of equal representation for Unionists and Nationalists in an Irish parliament. Home rule for all of Ireland is the basis of the suggestions, which do not contemplate the exclusion of Ulster.

WILSON BECOMES TOOL OF GERMANS

Frank H. Simonds Gives His Views of Latest Berlin Proposal

PRESIDENT PLACED IN EMBARRASSING POSITION

Situation May Increase Peril of the United States

New York, Dec. 27.—(By Frank H. Simonds.)—Will Mr. Wilson be blackmailed further? If there was any doubt in anyone's mind as to who would benefit by Mr. Wilson's peace gesture, it should be abolished now. Coolly, skilfully, completely, the Germans, in their response to Mr. Wilson's note, have turned that document to their own ends. The very promptness of their response shows their enthusiasm.

And what is the next step? Is Mr. Wilson to be blackmailed by the threat of a German submarine campaign into an endorsement of the German proposal for a conference of the belligerents? It is beyond all cavil that the underlying motive of his first action as disclosed by the hapless Lansing, was to prevent, if possible, a new German submarine campaign, with all its incidental perils to the United States. Will he now continue to give force and character to the German manoeuvre under the same threat?

Dangerous Position

Everyone ought at least to recognize the possibilities of the situation in which Mr. Wilson and his country now find themselves. Conceivably, Mr. Wilson will now take the opportunity supplied by the German response to retreat from a dangerous position while there is yet time. He may even find in the German response the basis for a prompt repudiation of all association with German effort and a frank disavowal of sympathy with it.

But it is just as possible that he may accept the German response as a thing deserving attention, continue to enlist the support of neutrals who, like the United States, are more interested in personal safety than in principles, and thus exert pressure upon the allies to comply with the German desires.

Mr. Wilson is now in the position of a man who has been subjected to the blackmailing processes and having temporarily yielded, has a chance to escape. But will he seize the opportunity? If he does not, we must all of us look forward to seeing our country and our government working in close co-operation with the Germans to procure that peace which the Germans either desire or profess to desire for their own purposes.

It is an interesting situation, but it hardly contributes to national pride, and it may easily increase, rather than diminish national peril.

BERLIN WELCOMES WILSON'S ASSISTANCE

President's Proposal Regarded as of Great Help at Present Time

Berlin, Dec. 27.—(By Ernest Kahn.)—German opinion on President Wilson's peace note has veered almost overnight. It is no longer regarded as inopportune and an impediment to Germany's own peace efforts, as perhaps an attempt to bring about settlement earlier in the war might have been considered.

On the contrary, responsible circles are now inclined to regard the president's proposition as of great help to Berlin at the present stage of affairs, especially as both his action and that of von Bethmann-Hollweg aim at the interchange of views by the belligerents concerning the possibility of peace negotiations.

Although the speeches of Pokrovski, Briand and Lloyd George, especially that of the latter, are regarded in Germany generally as affronting and detrimental to peace overtures, repeating as they do the old imputations and raising the destruction of Germany, the parties on the left and government wings have decided to wait for an official answer before taking action.

If the reply of the entente nations offers the possibility of Germany's entering peace negotiations without humiliation, it will not be rejected.

WILL LIBERATE BELGIANS.

London, Dec. 27.—King Alfonso of Spain has persuaded the German government to repatriate a large number of Belgian workmen who were deported to Germany, according to a Madrid dispatch to the Radio Agency.

GERMANS ARRANGING FOR PEACE CONFERENCE

London, Dec. 27.—A dispatch from The Hague to the Exchange Telegraph says German agents have arrived at The Hague to make preliminary arrangements for German delegates to the peace conference suggested in the German reply to President Wilson's note.

The dispatch follows: "In view of the preparatory meeting of delegates to a peace conference suggested in the German reply to President Wilson, German agents have arrived at The Hague and are making inquiries for hotel accommodations for German delegates."

BRITISH DESTROY TURKISH FORCE

Commander Sends Additional Details Regarding Capture of Magdhara

OVER THIRTEEN HUNDRED PRISONERS TAKEN

Troops Advanced to Mitla Pass Where Enemy Camps Are Burned

London, Dec. 27.—Detailing the capture of the strong Turkish position at Magdhara, twenty miles southeast of El Arish and ninety miles east of the Suez canal, a British war office announcement says that virtually the entire Turkish force of about 2,000 men was destroyed. The statement reads: "The following probably are the final details regarding Magdhara. The total captures were 1,350 prisoners, including forty-five officers, four mountain guns, three Krupp guns, a large number of rifles, 100,000 rounds of small ammunition, some gun ammunition, a number of horses, camels and other equipment."

"The total enemy engaged numbered 1,900 or 2,000, so practically the whole force was destroyed."

"Further south one of our mobile columns advanced through Mitla pass, destroying the enemy defences at the eastern end thereof. It burned his camps at Sunderbhatman and at a point six miles further towards Nakhl, on the southern road from Suez to Akaba."

Russians in Persia.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Information has reached here from Teheran, the capital of Persia, that Russia had decided not to force matters with that country, but to gain control through slow processes designed to inspire less hostility than harsher measures. As another step in the military control of Northern Persia, Russia has determined to form a force of Cossacks, numbering 11,000 men under the command of twenty-nine Russian officers who have already been sent as organizers.

PAYS TRIBUTE TO GENERAL TURNER

Col. Bradbury Says He is Doing Good Work in Reorganizing Canadian Forces

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—An Ottawa dispatch to the Winnipeg Telegram says: "Col. George Bradbury, M.P., and Senator Col. W. H. Sharpe have arrived in Ottawa from England. Their regiments have been broken up for reinforcements and as no further work was required of them they have returned to Canada. Col. Bradbury stated that all senior officers over military age would return to Canada. 'There are plenty of young men for all the positions at the front, and it is a young man's fight.'"

"General Turner's appointment to supreme command of the Canadians in England has been unanimously endorsed and already he has done good work," said Col. Bradbury. "In England reorganization was needed and General Turner is the right man for the work. I was in France for some time with the Canadian forces and there on the battlefield the Canadian military organization is magnificent. The men are well cared for, enthusiastic, and in splendid fighting trim," he said."

GENERAL BURSTALL TO COMIAK'S DIVISION

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—General Burstall, at present in command of the Canadian Artillery at the front, will be given command of the 2nd Division, made vacant by the promotion of General Turner to the command of Canadian forces in England.

UNITED STATES FEARS RENEWAL OF SUBMARINE FRIGHTFULNESS BY HUNS; WASHINGTON OPINION OF PEACE NOTE

Belief Expressed That Nothing Will Come of President Wilson's Proposal Which is Regarded as Strengthening Position of Germany on Account of Its Timing; Allies Plan Vigorous Campaign

Washington, Dec. 27.—The text of the German reply to the peace note of President Wilson, containing no suggestion of terms but merely following the line to which utterance has been given repeatedly by the German propagandists to the United States, only strengthens Washington's belief that nothing will come of the present German desire for peace, which, as soon as it was expressed, was so vigorously backed by the government of the United States.

"Washington belief," in this instance, is made up of the opinions of American officials as well as diplomats. It may be stated, without fear of very vigorous contradiction, that some of the president's very closest advisers here are of the opinion that peace was brought no nearer by the Wilson offer of mediation, which in effect it was. As one prominent German here expresses it, "the note means mediation or it means nothing." The president declares the note was not an offer to mediate. Therefore the prominent German must be driven to the conclusion that it means nothing. As a peace move, he undoubtedly is correct. But nobody in administration circles can be found who will deny, even privately, that the motive for the dispatch of the peace note was the fear in the mind of the president that the Germans are about to renew their policy of submarine frightfulness.

One week has passed since the president dispatched his peace note after two "authoritative denials" that any such move was contemplated had been caused to be sent from Washington. Four days have gone by since the secretary of state blurted out the truth behind the sending of the note, that the United States is on the verge of war. Without denial it is becoming the settled conviction here that this government has acted to reinforce the German position because Germany threatened to attack the United States and everybody else if peace is not forthcoming.

Two Courses Open.

The fact that Germany is ready to multiply her undersea warfare has been known to this government for months. The Wilson administration does not want to eat its words so bravely expressed in the exchange of notes at the time of the Sussex incident. But it will come to that or a breaking off of friendly relations unless peace negotiations are interposed. The British government, by its actions, shows very plainly its belief that the submarine campaign is about to break out again. The preparations for the use of Halifax, despite the meagre facilities there for expediting shipping and despite the perils of navigation in entering that harbor during the winter months, show that. The close patrol of the shipping lane between Halifax and the English ports, already begun, according to news received here to-night, greatly interests the American government. Of even more interest is the report that British merchantmen are to be armed for and after. There will be a chance to "get" the attacking submarine. The fact that merchantmen armed to this extent will have to give up their rights in neutral ports indicates how near the allies believe the submarine peril is.

It is the belief now in the best informed quarters here and in New York, as well as in all the capitals of the allies, that the German peace movement will get nowhere, even though President Wilson continues to back it. The direct corollary of that belief is that stories of undersea frightfulness soon will be shocking the world. It is even beginning to be believed here that the president has been told the exact date on which the imperial German government will unleash its pack of latest and deadliest submarines.

Making Munitions at Home.
It was stated by a well-informed American here to-day, a man who is in close touch with the allies, that from now on very little in the way of actual munitions of war will be exported from American ports. Foodstuffs in tremendous quantities will continue to be shipped. Great Britain and France are at the point where all necessary munitions can be manufactured at home. American contracts are not being renewed.

It is said there will be difficulties, but not insurmountable difficulties, in concentrating the foodstuff shipments at Halifax. It is not believed that France and the other allies will follow the example of Great Britain in arming the merchant ships fore and aft. The British appear to have made a success of this means of meeting the submarine peril. The others have not been so successful.

The president's friends here are even more emphatic now than Secretary Lansing was last Thursday, in his first statement, that the Wilson peace note was in itself "not a peace note at all," but a move in the attempt, based on a desperate hope, to induce Germany to

OUTLINES OBJECTS OF COMMISSION

Reply to Trades and Labor Congress Regarding National Service Proposals

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—At the conclusion of a meeting of the cabinet this morning a carefully worded letter was prepared and sent by Sir Robert Borden to the executive of the Trades and Labor Congress. The letter explained the aims of the National Service Commission and in reply to the representation made by the labor men in connection with the matter. The contents of the letter have not yet been made public. The executive of the Trades and Labor Congress will consider it this afternoon, and if they decide that the aims of the commission, as explained in the letter, conform with the opinion of labor with regard to service, it is expected that the congress will issue an appeal for co-operation with the commission. It is understood that the labor men have been assured that conscription is not "contemplated in the proposals of the commission."

BY-ELECTION IN N. TORONTO

Toronto, Dec. 27.—The writ has been issued for the by-election in North Toronto, brought on by the acceptance of W. D. McPherson, M.P., of the position of provincial secretary in the Hearn cabinet. The nominations will be held on January 15, and the election on January 22.

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FANCY ASHCROFT POTATOES, 100-lb. sack for **\$1.75**

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2 lbs. for **85c**

NICE NAVAL ORANGES, 3 doz. **50c**

PACIFIC MILK
3 large cans **25c**

PURE GOLD or SHIRRIFF'S JELLY POWDER
4 pkts. for **25c**

SELECTED PICNIC HAM, per lb. **18c**

QUAKER RED RASPBERRIES
2 cans for **25c**

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BRITISH ADVANCING IN MESOPOTAMIA

Positions Have Been Extended South and East of Kut-el-Amara

London, Dec. 27.—An official statement on the campaign in Mesopotamia, issued last night reads:
"On the 22nd British detachments advanced to the right bank of the Tigris. Their positions subsequently have been consolidated and extended south and east of Kut-el-Amara.
"The enemy's trenches on the right bank of the Tigris, southwest of Kut-el-Amara, have been systematically bombarded. Our cavalry by a night march reached and destroyed Gassah fort 20 miles southeast of Kut, which had long been a base of operations of the hostile Arabs. 40 tons of grain were destroyed. Eighty were captured and a number of hostile Arabian encampments were burned."

MUST NOT SELL SHARES ABROAD

Amsterdam, Dec. 27.—The Frankfurter Zeitung reports that the Bundesrat has forbidden the sale abroad of German shipping shares, the object being to prevent an undesirable foreign influence in German shipping.

TWO DESTROYERS SINK

London, Dec. 27.—The admiralty announced that two destroyers were sunk in a collision in the North Sea on December 21 during very bad weather. Six officers and 40 men were lost.



MARSHAL JOFFRE

JOFFRE CREATED MARSHAL OF FRANCE

French Press and Public Approve the Action of Government

Paris, Dec. 26.—In addition to a decree creating General Joffre a marshal of France, President Poincare has signed another revoking the decrees of Dec. 2, 1915 and Dec. 13, 1916. The first of these appointed Marshal Joffre commander in chief of all the French forces, except those in the colonies and Morocco. The second said: "General Joffre, commander in chief of the French forces, will act as technical adviser to the government in all matters concerning the direction of the war."

The high command, as now settled finally, consists of the war committee, composed of Premier Briand; General H. Lyautey, minister of war; Rear Admiral La Caze, minister of marine; Albert Thomas, minister of national manufactures; Alexandre Ribot, minister of finance, and President Poincare. The duty of the minister of war is to notify the other ministers and commanding generals concerning the decisions of the committee and take measures to insure their concerted execution. In addition he is responsible for everything concerning the preparation and maintenance of the nation's military resources.

There are two generals commanding the north and northeast, who also assume a connection with the allied staffs, and General Sarrahl, of the army of the Orient, who, as already announced, is no longer answerable to grand headquarters, but directly to the minister of war.

The press and public are unanimous in welcoming the revival of the dignity of marshal in favor of General Joffre. All agree that he broke the German power once for all by the victory of the Marne and saved the capital of the country from humiliation and despair.

NO COMPROMISE WITH FALSE IDEALS

Rev. G. Campbell Morgan Gives Views on Note Sent by President Wilson

London, Dec. 24.—The popular preacher, Rev. G. Campbell Morgan, preaching at Westminster chapel, said: "We are living at the most perilous hour that has come to us in this war. The most subtle perils are threatening us now, and these are created by the astuteness of Germany and the good intention of I do not say America, but of the president of the American republic."

"The question that has come from Germany as to peace is a question of an astute and clever diplomacy, which is endeavoring to cast the blame for this war upon those who decline to accept the responsibility."

"The good intentions of President Wilson are sadly marred by his most tragic mistake that he has declined to express any opinion as to the moral issue."

"I am not considering the government. I pray for them and I believe they will be led rightly. But in thinking of the nation and the attitude of the people toward this whole question of peace, I am terribly afraid lest, judging from the newspapers, we should be in danger of forgetting that it was for the sanctity of treaties, for the rights of nations and for the safeguarding of freedom that we entered the war. The boys whose presence we miss from Westminster chapel did not leave professional and business life and the joys and comforts of home and church to make new markets for merchants. They went in answer to a high call on behalf of righteousness and truth, following the flaming torch of freedom."

"To consent now to any peace that falls short of the realization of those high ideals is to admit we were wrong at the first. The Christian church must not utter a word that suggests there can be such an admission to-day. Far better defeat and death for righteousness than ease and quiet by a compromise with false ideals."

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PROGRESS SHOWN BY ANNUAL STATEMENT

Royal Bank of Canada Makes Greatest Strides in Its History

Montreal, Dec. 27.—The annual statement of the Royal Bank of Canada, now being forwarded to shareholders, indicates that the bank has, during the past twelve months, made the greatest strides in its history. For some time past the Royal has, from year to year, established new records, but the progress and expansion during 1916 have been of such unusual proportions that it is difficult to appreciate that they have all occurred during so short a period. It has often been pointed out that the Royal is still forging ahead among the leading banking institutions of the Dominion, but it is likely that the extent of the increase in assets and deposits for the past year will come as a surprise even to those who have been watching the growth of the bank's business. The important consolidations it has effected has given it a strong foothold in many new sections of the Dominion. While recently the purchase of the Quebec Bank by the Royal was sanctioned by the shareholders of the former institution, this undertaking only comes into effect on December 31, and does not in any way affect the statement just given out, this being for the fiscal year to November 30 only.

Deposits Increase.
The Royal is evidently steadily benefiting from the confidence its conservative banking policy has inspired, and this is, perhaps, more strikingly shown in the big gains made in the deposits bearing interest—a gain of over \$22,000,000 in them and an increase in total deposits of over \$45,000,000 during the twelve months is especially gratifying, as it is generally recognized that the Royal does not carry any very large special deposits.

An idea of the expansion the bank has enjoyed during the year under review may be gathered from the following: Total assets show an increase of over fifty-five million dollars; and now exceed \$253,000,000, as compared with approximately \$195,000,000 last year and \$179,000,000 at the end of 1914.

In keeping with the policy of being continually prepared owing to the large business, it is at all times handling a considerable portion of these assets are being maintained in liquid form, the liquid assets being represented by \$121,127,963, equivalent to over 63 per cent. of the total liabilities to the public and compared with \$84,894,462 at the end of 1915 and \$71,244,477 at the end of 1914. The larger business the bank is now handling is reflected by the increase in notes of the bank in circulation to \$18,178,228, up from \$14,224,866, and total current loans and discounts of \$124,564,658, an increase of approximately \$18,000,000.

It should, perhaps, be pointed out that one of the recent important developments of the bank's business results from the chain of branches which it has built up in the British West Indies and other southern countries, and this has been a material aid to the growing foreign business of Canada.

Saving Accounts.
The Canadian public would seem to be steadily increasing their saving accounts, even though "large" amounts have been invested in various loans, as the deposits bearing interest have increased to \$140,982,159, as compared with \$117,519,300, while deposits not bearing interest now amount to \$59,366,396. The total deposits are now \$200,348,555, compared with \$154,976,327 last year and \$136,051,508 at the end of 1914.

The handling of a largely increased amount of business has evidently had its usual satisfactory effect on earnings, as the profits for the year amounted to \$2,111,307.65, equivalent to 17.87 per cent. on the average paid up capital, against \$1,965,576.57, or 16.48 per cent. in 1915. With the balance carried forward from the previous year, the total amount available for distribution was \$2,787,773, and this was appropriated as follows: Dividends at the regular rate of 12 per cent. per annum, \$1,417,207; interest on bank deposits, \$1,160,000; written off bank premises account, \$250,000; war tax on bank note circulation, \$118,226; contribution to Patriotic Fund, \$50,000, leaving the balance to be carried forward to profit and loss of \$852,346.28, as compared with \$474,472.16 at the end of the previous year. The principal accounts of the bank compare as follows:

	1916	1915
Total assets	\$253,000,000	\$195,000,000
Liquid assets	\$121,127,963	\$84,894,462
Total current loans and discounts	\$124,564,658	\$100,000,000
Total call loans	\$2,448,631	\$9,382,459
Deposits in central gold reserve	\$6,500,000	\$2,000,000
Deposits bearing interest	\$140,982,159	\$117,519,300
Deposits not bearing interest	\$59,366,396	\$47,467,000
Profits for the year	\$2,111,307	\$1,965,576
Balance carried forward	\$852,346	\$474,472

ARABIA WAS NOT IN RALTY SERVICE

Washington, Dec. 27.—The preliminary statement to this government by Great Britain saying that the steamer Arabia, sunk by a German submarine without warning, was not at the time and had not been in admiralty service, was sent on to Germany yesterday. Announcement that that effect was made at the state department where, as in the case of the Marina, on which six Americans were lost, no comment was added. Further facts are expected from Great Britain shortly and possibly a reply from Germany.

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CASUALTIES AMONG CANADIAN SOLDIERS

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—The following list of casualties has been issued:
Infantry.

Killed in action—Pte. Harry Milne, Scotland.

Died of wounds—Pte. J. A. Morgan, Ottawa.

Died—Pte. Edw. Wheat, England; Pte. C. R. Johnson, Winnipeg; Pte. E. J. King, Yarmouth, N. S.; Pte. Francis Carber, Channel Islands.

Accidentally killed—Pte. Wm. Curtis, Glace Bay, N. S.

Previously reported missing; now reported died while prisoner—Pte. F. Richards, Kamloops, B. C.

Previously reported missing; now believed killed in action—Lieut. J. S. Cooke, England.

Previously reported missing; now reported wounded—Pte. W. M. Sullivan, Rankin, Ont.

Previously reported prisoner of war; now reported transferred to Switzerland for internment—Capt. W. H. Hooper, Carleton Place, Ont.; Lieut. C. R. Scott, Perth, Ont.; Capt. Scudener, Channel Islands.

Seriously ill—Pte. A. Anderson, Moose Jaw; Pte. H. Hills, Hampton, Ont.; Pte. E. H. Flanders, Avonlea, Sask.

Previously reported missing; now not missing—Pte. J. A. Cattle, Toronto. Wounded—Lieut. G. G. Gies, Virden, Man.; Pte. J. Rodfield, England; Pte. G. W. Day, Owen Sound, Ont.; Pte. J. Hardie, Scotland.

Cancel report casualty—Pte. A. Milne, Scotland.

Mounted Rifles.

Previously reported missing; now believed killed—Cpl. J. D. Neish, Scotland; Pte. E. McFarlane, England; Pte. J. Warren, England.

Previously reported prisoner of war; now transferred to Switzerland for internment—Lieut. Eric Smith, England.

Seriously ill—Pte. A. Price, Ludlow, N. B.

Wounded—Pte. H. Hutchinson, England; Lieut. W. P. Byrd, Richmond, Va.; Lieut. K. L. Duggan, Montreal.

Reported wounded from base in error—Pte. E. Broadhurst, Winnipeg.

Engineers.

Previously reported prisoner of war;

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\$18

Genuine imported Navy Blue, Brown, Black of Grey Suits made-to-order for men and women

\$18

Charlie Hope

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now transferred to Switzerland for internment—Lieut. G. R. Barnes, England.

Mounted Services.

Wounded—Lieut. O. W. Roger, Winnipeg.

Seriously ill—Pte. J. M. Harris, Toronto.

PRESIDENT WILSON IGNORED MASSACRES

Paris, Dec. 27.—The Temps, referring to the principle of the integrity of small states as expressed in the American note, recalls Serbia, Belgium and Luxembourg and asks about Armenian massacres. It quotes Dr. Martin Napage, head of the German school at Aleppo, the central point of the Armenian deportations as saying: "If the German government is unable to prevent the massacre of men, women and children, the work of my school can have no moral strength with the inhabitants."

The Temps quotes the Turkish president of the committee on deportations as saying: "We want to destroy the name Armenian. The same as the Germans desire to allow the survival of none but Germans, we Turks want none but Turks."

"Such are facts and texts," the Temps adds, "which we respectfully refer to the impartial examination of Mr. Wilson."

Improve Your Complexion

Get your blood pure, keep the liver active and the bowels regular, and disgusting pimples and unsightly blotches will disappear from the face. For improving the complexion and putting the blood in good order

BEECHAM'S PILLS

are safer, better and surer than cosmetics. They eliminate poisonous matters from the system, strengthen the organs and purify the blood—bring the health-glow to the cheeks, brighten the eyes, improve and

Beautify the Skin

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"VICTORIA'S LEADING TAILORS"

Made-in-Victoria Uniforms Are Better

—because when you order clothes from a distance you cannot "try on" a garment.
—You know absolutely nothing about your fit or finish until you see the finished article.
—You send cash out of town never to return.

Glance Over These Prices. See Us To-morrow

Khaki Greatcoat	\$35.00
British Warmer	\$32.00
Khaki Drill Tunic	\$10.50
Khaki Drill Breeches	\$5.00

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Forty-Seventh Annual Statement of The Royal Bank of Canada

GENERAL STATEMENT
30th November, 1916

LIABILITIES

TO THE PUBLIC:	
Deposits not bearing interest	\$59,365,396.12
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date of statement	140,862,199.46
Notes of the Bank in Circulation	\$200,227,595.58
Balances due to other Banks in Canada	18,178,228.49
Balances due to Banks and Banking Correspondents in the United Kingdom and foreign countries	6,683,108.63
Bills Payable	8,147,576.48
Acceptances under Letters of Credit	478,392.16
	452,677.26
TO THE SHAREHOLDERS:	
Capital Stock Paid in	\$227,484,469.97
Reserve Fund	12,000,000.00
Balance of Profits carried forward	852,346.28
Dividend No. 117 (at 12 per cent. per annum), payable Dec. 1st, 1916	13,412,346.28
Dividends Unclaimed	\$359,840.71
	4,770.25
	364,610.96
	\$253,261,427.21

ASSETS

Current Coin	\$16,072,763.38
Dominion Notes	14,249,110.25
	\$30,321,873.63
Deposits in the Central Gold Reserve	\$6,500,000.00
Deposit with the Minister for the purposes of the Circulation Fund	595,340.00
Notes of other Banks	3,857,573.80
Cheques on other Banks	11,805,508.55
Balances due by other Banks in Canada	1,199.79
Balances due by Banks and Banking Correspondents elsewhere than in Canada	5,092,067.54
Dominion and Provincial Government Securities, not exceeding market value	1,029,374.10
Canadian Municipal Securities and British, Foreign and Colonial Public Securities other than Canadian, not exceeding market value	14,012,089.69
Railway and other Bonds, Debentures and Stocks, not exceeding market value	15,464,604.22
Call Loans in Canada, on Bonds Debentures and Stocks	11,076,005.90
Call and Short (not exceeding thirty days) Loans elsewhere than in Canada	21,372,026.45
Other Current Loans and Discounts in Canada (less rebate of interest)	\$121,127,661.67
Other Current Loans and Discounts elsewhere than in Canada (less rebate of interest)	\$86,936,631.39
Overdue Debts (estimated loss provided for)	37,928,027.25
	466,640.93
Real Estate other than Bank Premises	125,331,299.57
Bank Premises, at not more than cost, less amounts written off	1,095,473.24
Liabilities of Customers under Letters of Credit, as per contra	5,138,398.14
Other Assets not included in the foregoing	452,677.26
	115,915.33
	\$253,261,427.21

H. S. HOLT, President. EDSON L. PEASE, Managing Director. C. E. NEILL, General Manager.

AUDITORS' CERTIFICATE

WE REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA: That in our opinion the transactions of the Bank which have come under our notice have been within the powers of the Bank. That we have checked the cash and verified the securities of the Bank at the Chief Office at 30th November, 1916, as well as at another time, as required by Section 56 of the Bank Act, and that we found them agreed with the entries in the books in regard thereto. We also during the year checked the cash and verified the securities at the principal branches. That the above Balance Sheet has been compared by us with the books at the Chief Office and with the certified returns from the branches, and in our opinion is properly drawn up as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Bank's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Bank. That we have obtained all the information and explanations required by us.

JAMES MARWICK, C.A. S. ROGER MITCHELL, C.A. Auditors of Marwick, Mitchell, Pease and Co.

Montreal, Canada, December 18th, 1916.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

Balance of Profit and Loss Account, 30th November, 1915	\$676,472.16
Profits for the year, after deducting charges of management and all other expenses, accrued interest on deposits, full provision for all bad and doubtful debts and rebate of interest on unmatured bills	2,111,307.65
	\$2,787,779.81

Appropriated as follows:	
Dividends Nos. 114, 115, 116 and 117, at 12 per cent. per annum	\$1,417,207.02
Transferred to Officers' Pension Fund	100,000.00
Written off Bank Premises Account	250,000.00
War Tax on Bank Note Circulation	118,226.51
Contribution to Patriotic Fund	50,000.00
Balance of Profit and Loss carried forward	852,346.28
	\$2,787,779.81

H. S. HOLT, President. EDSON L. PEASE, Managing Director. C. E. NEILL, General Manager.
Montreal, 18th December, 1916.

COAL OUTPUT OF THE DOMINION

Returns Received From Operators; Production of Iron and Steel

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—The Dominion department of Mines has received from the principal coal operators in Canada returns of production for ten months, supplemented in most cases by estimates for November and December.

In the basis of the record available, it is estimated that the total production of coal in Canada during the calendar year 1916 will approximate 14,365,000 short tons, which is equal to 12,825,892 gross tons. The estimate is believed to be fairly close for Nova Scotia and British Columbia. In Alberta, however, there are so many small operators that final returns may show a wider variation from the estimates now made.

By provinces, the estimate is as follows, the figures for 1915 being included for comparison:

Province	1915	1916
Nova Scotia	7,052,500	6,500,000
New Brunswick	125,301	135,000
Saskatchewan	246,107	260,000
Alberta	3,306,818	4,400,000
British Columbia	2,065,615	2,630,000
Yukon	9,247	—
Totals	12,825,892	14,365,000

The Dominion department of mines has received from the producers a record of the production of pig iron and steel ingots and castings during the first 11 months of the year, which, together with estimates for December, show a probable production of pig iron in Canada during the 12 months ending December 31, 1916, of 1,474,726 short tons, which is equivalent to 1,046,195 gross tons, and a production of steel ingots and direct steel castings of 1,454,124 short tons (1,289,325 gross tons), of which 1,423,485 short tons were steel ingots and 30,639 short tons were direct castings.

The production of pig iron in 1915 was 918,775 short tons, and of steel ingots and castings, 1,020,896 short tons, showing an increase in the production of pig iron in 1916 of about 28 per cent and an increase in the production of steel ingots and castings of over 42 per cent.

The 1916 production was greater than that of any previous year, the second largest production of pig iron having been 1,128,967 short tons in 1913 and of steel ingots and castings, 1,168,393 short tons, also in 1913.

WAR CONFERENCE OF THE EMPIRE

Message From Colonial Secretary Explains Object of Meeting in February

London, Dec. 27.—The secretary of state for the colonies has sent a telegram to the dominions explaining the purpose of the forthcoming Imperial conference by Premier Lloyd George. The telegram explains that what the government contemplates is not an ordinary Imperial conference, but a special war conference of the empire.

The prime minister from each of the dominions is "invited to attend a series of special meetings of the war cabinet in order to consider urgent questions affecting the prosecution of the war, possible conditions on which an agreement with our allies, we could assent to its termination, and problems which would then immediately arise."

The premiers are urged to attend at an early date, not later than the end of February.

The Daily Telegraph, commenting on the Imperial conference, says: "The allies are very far from committing the mistake of not considering among themselves the conditions of peace, for which they proposed to obtain the only effectual guarantee. These deliberations are not of a kind to be concluded in haste. We have not wished to have a premature peace, and we do not mean to have it. Our enemies have wished such a peace, and are making every possible effort to force one as the alternative to final defeat. They have failed to disarm any of their intended victims by military means; certainly they will not do so by the exercise of diplomacy."

Text of Message.

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—A cable received by the governor general yesterday from the colonial secretary amplifies the announcement made in the British House of Commons last week by Premier Lloyd George in regard to the Imperial conference, as follows:

"I wish to explain that what is contemplated by his majesty's government is not a session of the ordinary Imperial conference, but a special war conference of the empire. His majesty's government, therefore, invites your prime minister to attend a series of special and continuous meetings of the war cabinet to consider urgent questions affecting the prosecution of the war, the possible conditions on which, in agreement with our allies, we could assent to its termination and the problems which will then immediately arise."

"Your prime minister, for the purpose of these meetings, would be a member of the war cabinet. In view of the extreme urgency of the subjects of discussion, as well as of their supreme importance, it is hoped that your prime minister may find it possible, in spite of the serious inconveniences involved, to attend at

an early date—not later than the end of February.

"While the presence of your prime minister himself is earnestly desired by his majesty's government, they hope that if he sees insuperable difficulties, he will carefully consider the question of nominating a substitute, as they regard it as a serious misfortune if any dominions were left unrepresented."

SPIRIT OF CANADIANS IS WONDERFUL

Ralph Connor Pays High Tribute to Soldiers on Western Front

St. John, N. B., Dec. 27.—"When you meet the men who are fighting on the western front now, you meet pure gold," said Major Rev. Dr. C. W. Gordon (Ralph Connor), who arrived in the city on the liner Metagama, fresh from the firing line.

"The spirit of the men is wonderful. Always cheerful, they go into battle with a song on their lips. You cannot get them to sing patriotic songs; they sing 'I Love a Lassie' and have at the top of their voices—patriotic songs do not seem to please them. Sometimes you hear them sing 'O Canada', but it is very seldom they go even that far. They are changed men when they get to the western front—changed physically, mentally and spiritually. Then there is that great love of country which seems to burst forth from them on every occasion. You wonder why they never sing patriotic songs, but they are carrying out deeds each day, each hour of their lives, that are far above the sentiment expressed in patriotic songs. The whole thing is stupendous, and the English or any other language cannot begin to describe conditions over there."

"These men whom you see coming back to you, broken and maimed, have been through hell and back. These are the men who go out into a bombardment. They come back to billets broken physically, mentally and spiritually. After three days' rest they are ready to go back and repeat the performance. I used the word 'bombardment' did I not? Well, I hate to use that term. It is not what I mean; a new word should be coined. You cannot realize what the word 'bombardment' means to a soldier on the western front."

"Sometimes I feel disgruntled when I read the Canadian papers—I suppose I should not feel so, but I can not help it. I read about engagements at the front, and they are described in the manner of 'Principles of Mathematics'. Do not get that idea into your head. Every foot of ground traversed is won only after a hard struggle. One thing the British nation lost, and by a foolish censorship, was the true story of the battle of the Marne, the greatest battle in the history of the world by long odds. Not twenty people in Canada know the true story of the battle of the Marne. No more do they know the true story of the battle of Ypres. The censorship, the fresh grip, the impact of first telling, has passed forever. It never can be recovered by any writer."

"When you realize the wonderful epics that have been written about comparatively small incidents, when you speak of them in the same breath with the Marne and Ypres, and when you remember that they have lived for thousands of years, all down through the corridors of time they have come, and yet the fresh and virgin touch of wonder, of gallantry, of heroism, lies in the story of the battle of the Marne and of the battle of Ypres, which has covered with dust because of a foolish censorship, and can never be recorded by the nations in the fullest sense, for the force of first telling has gone forever. A force of first telling which would have stirred the nation to the heart, which would have caused the blood and brawn of Britain to rise as one man and say 'thousands may fall, but yet we carry on.'"

REPORT DENIED BY MINISTER OF LABOR

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—"There is nothing in it," said Hon. T. W. Crothers, minister of labor, yesterday, when questioned regarding the reports that the government here would take over the coal mines in district No. 16, owing to the inability of the operators and men to reach an agreement. "G. B. Harrison has been investigating the situation for us in the mining areas and he has not yet reported. We hope that as a result of his report the trouble will be amicably adjusted. Of course, if they are not it is hard to say what will happen, but at present no such action as reported has been contemplated."

To Stop Bad Cough

SOOTHE DRY, IRRITATED THROAT
WITH PARMINT SYRUP, SAYS
THIS OLD FASHIONED COUGH
REMEDY IS BEST

We are told that the old time remedies are best and invariably contain less harmful yet better medicine than those which are in use to-day. This being so, undoubtedly the following old fashioned recipe which is quick acting will be welcomed by many as there seems to be a regular epidemic of coughs at the present time. Secure from your druggist 1 ounce Parmit (double strength), take this home and add to it a quarter pint of hot water and 4 ounces of granulated sugar, stir until dissolved. Take 1 tablespoonful four times a day. No more racking your whole body with a cough. Clogged nostrils should open, air passages of your head should clear and your breathing become easy. Parmit syrup is pleasant to take, easy to prepare and costs little. Every person who has a stubborn cough, hard cold or catarrh in any form should give this prescription a trial. There is nothing better.

ARTILLERY ACTIVE ON WESTERN FRONT

Enemy Trenches Raided by British Troops Who Take Number of Prisoners.

London, Dec. 27.—The official report from British headquarters in France last night reads:

"Some fifty Germans approached our lines on Monday night in the neighborhood of Lesboufs. Eight of them were taken prisoner, the remainder having been caught by our machine gun fire."

"Monday night we entered trenches northeast of Arras and drove off an enemy working party. The enemy positions east of Ploegsteert were also raided; casualties were inflicted upon the enemy and prisoners were secured. In the neighborhood of Lesboufs and Guedecourt we bombarded the enemy trenches during the day with satisfactory results. At other places along the front artillery activity has continued."

"On the night of December 24-25, our airplanes carried out successful bombing operations on places of military importance behind the enemy's line."

Artillery Active.

Paris, Dec. 27.—There was great activity by both artilleries in the sectors of Belle-en-Santerre and Fouquecourt, says the war office statement last night.

"Everywhere else the cannonading was intermittent. The usual artillery activity prevailed."

German Report.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—The following official statement was issued last night: "On the north bank of the Somme there was temporary strong artillery fire. Elsewhere on the western and eastern fronts nothing important occurred."

In Great Wallachia the Russians were ejected from several positions. "Conditions in Macedonia are calm."

CRITICIZES ACTION OF PRESIDENT WILSON

Dean of Westminster Says Military Brigandage Must Be Overthrown

London, Dec. 27.—The Dean of Westminster, the Right Reverend Herbert Edward Ryle, preaching in the abbey, said:

"It is our resolve, God helping us, to overthrow military brigandage in Europe, to rescue the liberties and homes of the desolated countries, to obtain for these people reparation for their wrongs and for humanity lasting securities against a recurrence of aggressive violence and crime. It is true that the president of the United States, after two years of study of the question and innumerable notes, seems to believe that the object of the two groups of belligerents is the same. He knows that Germany refused arbitration, declined a conference and rejected every overture to prevent war. He knows that his own countrymen have poured money like water to assist the military and contracted remnants of the little Belgian people, whose treaty rights were violated and whose frontiers were invaded before war was declared. He knows of the infractions of The Hague conventions, which the American people have studiously promoted."

"He knows all the details of the organized atrocities reported upon in strict inquiries. He knows of the sinking of unarmed passenger ships, like the Lusitania and Arabia, without notice or warning. He knows of the murder of Capt. Fryatt, of the nocturnal deportations of Belgians and French into slavery. He knows of German connivance at Armenian massacres. And yet he is of the opinion that the nations who are league to disarm this evil demoniac of national militarism have the same objects in view as the perpetrators of these historic crimes."

"President Wilson has either in a fit of mental aberration sent the wrong note or he has entirely misapprehended the European situation. These things are black and vile. The very thought of them on Christmas Day makes one shudder. Does anyone suppose that peace would be honorable which regarded the assaults and the defenders of humanity as having in view the same end? What kind of unity of aim do you expect between wolves and sheep dogs over the fleeces of torn lambs."

"Peace on the basis of such a hypothesis would be only an armistice giving an exhausted foe a much needed interval for recuperation before renewing his insatiable passion for the hegemony of the world and the destruction of his rivals with a savage war."

SCRAP NICKEL STOLEN.

Quebec, Dec. 27.—Members of the Dominion police force, assisted by the chief of the Quebec detective force, have arrested seven men here who are accused of having been stealing for some time back scrap cupro-nickel from the Dominion arsenal at Quebec. This nickel, the authorities think, has found its way to very willing buyers in the United States, and possibly a large part of the three or four thousand dollars' worth which was stolen reached enemies of the allies in the United States who would not hesitate to turn the valuable mineral over to any of the enemy powers.

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Women's Wool Sweater Coats

Priced Up to \$10 on Sale \$5.00 Thursday at

We have selected from our regular stock about three dozen Brushed and Ribbed Wool Sweater Coats for Women and Girls, which includes many "Jaeger" Coats, made from high-grade yarns. Various styles to choose from, and colors include black, navy, rose, grey, wine, brown, fawn, sage blue, white and heather mixtures. Priced regular up to \$10. On sale to-morrow at \$5.00

A Shipment of New Tweed Skirts Arrive

Fresh from their wrappings comes this fine lot of new Tweed Skirts. Tailored in various very smart styles, trimmed with new pocket arrangements and smoked pearl buttons. Light and dark tweed mixtures. Good value at \$7.75 and \$7.90

Women's Serviceable Winter Coats at \$13.00

You may choose from a fine range of dark tweed mixtures, perfectly tailored in several very smart styles, with full flowing backs and large crush collars. Very special value at \$13.00

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I'm "game".
Are you?
Be game!



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Now!
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Every recruit enrolled hastens the day of departure.

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All copy for display advertisements must be at Times Office before 4 p. m. of the day previous to the day of insertion. This is imperative. When this rule is complied with we do not guarantee insertion.

MEMBER OF THE AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Announcement

MEETINGS AND ENTERTAINMENTS
Notices of receptions, political, suffrage, patriotic, lodge, society, club or church meetings and services, concerts, socials, etc., inserted under special headings of "Meetings" on classified pages at one cent per word per insertion. As reading matter under heading of "Announcements" on news pages at three cents per word, per insertion.

AFTER TURKEY.

The British victor at Magdhaba, following swiftly the occupation of El Arish, should be considered in conjunction with the advance in Mesopotamia. These apparently are two phases of a co-ordinated campaign against Turkey in Asia which will be prosecuted with the utmost dispatch during the winter months. El Arish is a point near the Mediterranean coast about ninety miles east of the Suez Canal. It is on the most northerly of the two parallel routes which cross the Sinai desert from the canal to Syria and is twenty-five miles west of the Turco-Egyptian boundary. It can easily be reached from the sea. Magdhaba, where a much more productive success has been gained, is a place fifteen miles southeast of El Arish and twelve miles north of the second route between the canal and the boundary of Syria. It was along this latter road that the Turks advanced in their most serious attempt to invade Egypt. There is a third route which strikes southwestward from the Syrian boundary and then westward to the Red Sea opposite Suez, but for the most part it is outside the sphere of the present operations.

The British may be expected to extend their line southward to the second route and then they will control the two avenues of advance into Syria, assuming that such an advance is contemplated. In that event they would strike along the coast to Rafa, just on the boundary and, towards El Auda, a few miles beyond the line in Syria, thus advancing on a thirty-mile front. Such an advance would be supplied by the fleet which would cover their left flank and facilitate the transport of supplies. In this they would be operating under conditions much more favorable than those which characterized the Turkish campaign against Egypt. The enemy was unable to draw any supplies from the sea. He had to depend entirely upon cumbersome land transport, which seriously handicapped his movements. His main base was at Beersheba, thirty-five miles east of the boundary towards which a British advance probably would be directed. Should this phase of a winter campaign against Turkey be developed, commentators will have an ample opportunity to air their Biblical lore, for they will have ancient military precedent in the march of the children of Israel across a part, at least, of the same arid country into the land of Canaan. Incidentally it might be borne in mind that Jerusalem is not much farther from El Arish than El Arish is from the Suez canal, and that the landing of troops at Jaffa, the seaport of Jerusalem, is not the least of the possibilities of this interesting aspect of the war.

In Mesopotamia the British undoubtedly made a vigorous attempt to capture Bagdad this winter. Their advance on the right bank of the Tigris already has brought them west of Kut-el-Amara and seventy-five miles from their immediate objective. This progress is likely to disturb the equilibrium of the Turks holding the Samarra

lines on the left bank of the river, for Kut-el-Amara is the chief base for this position and were it to be captured the line of retreat to Bagdad, of the Ottoman troops in the Samarra trenches would be severed and they would have to retire northeastward to the boundary of Persia. They are not likely to await that development, however, and we should hear of the abandonment of the Samarra position as well as Kut-el-Amara itself shortly. This will be necessary if the Turks aim to make a stand for Bagdad. Thus, before long heavy pressure probably will be applied to Turkey's military extremities by the British from two widely separated points. What of the third? It is here that the Grand Duke Nicholas should make his annual appearance. The Russian lines are practically in the same position in which last summer found them. Trebizond is now their base of supply and they hold Erzurum, in the centre, ninety miles west of Erzurum. Their left wing, however, was bent back in the region of Lake Van by a strong Turkish counter-offensive which recaptured Bitlis and Mush and was then thrown out again. Unquestionably, however, the Russians will resume their movement in the direction of Kharput and Diarbekir and Turkey, therefore, will have to meet strong menaces from three quarters, any one of which, if successful, would strip her of an important part of her empire. In conjunction with these operations by outside foes the insurrection in western Arabia which already has driven the sovereignty of the Sultan from the holy places of Mecca and Medina is bound to spread under the encouragement of further Ottoman reverses. On the whole, Turkey's troubles are going to multiply apace this winter and she will require more aid than the return of that solitary division which for spectacular effect the Germans diverted to Galicia when summer ended the operations in Armenia and Mesopotamia.

GERMANY'S REPLY.

Washington professes to see in Germany's reply to President Wilson's note a further step towards peace. That reply does not meet the Wilson recommendation in a solitary characteristic. It does not state the terms Germany has in mind. It shoves the proposal of a world league of peace and offers the American executive only a hind seat on the German peace coach. Beyond that it explicitly asks, however, that an "immediate" meeting of belligerent states take place at a neutral place. In other words, Germany reiterates in more direct terms what she now wants. She wants a conference, and wants it at once. Moreover, she is so anxious for her people to know that she is pressing for a conference that she published her reply to the Wilson note before it was received at Washington.

This spectacular parade of Berlin and Washington peace-walkers, however, as recorded in the interesting exchange of notes, which, no doubt, will continue, ignores one or two mere details. These are the entente nations, and somehow we feel that a peace structure erected by Berlin and Washington without their assistance would be lacking in several suggestive particulars. They have not yet replied formally to Germany's overture, although their leading statesmen have stated definitely that they will not consider any peace proposal which does not define terms. Nor have they replied to the exquisitely tactful and adroit note of President Wilson.

Germany's precipitation, as shown in the unusual course of publishing her reply to the Wilson note before it was dispatched to Washington, is pretty positive proof that internal conditions of the central empires have reached an acute stage. If the German government was afraid to withhold its reply from publication for forty-eight hours, it apparently is confronted with a situation extremely difficult to deal with. In this connection it is reported to-day that agents were at The Hague arranging for accommodation for the delegates who will represent Germany at the peace conference "to be held immediately." This is merely gallery play and is intended more for home contemplation than for the outside world. It is all very significant. The allies have the situation in the hollow of their hands.

A MARSHAL OF FRANCE.

General Joffre has received the highest military distinction his grateful country is able to bestow. He has been made a Marshal of France. To confer this honor upon him the French government had to revive the title by special decree, thereby making a concession from the stern order which began in 1375. When France turned her back for the last time upon Napoleonism. Since then she has been exceedingly circumspect in the distribution of awards for military services. The cross of the Legion of Honor is her most highly-prized distinction. To the deep republican sentiment of the country a military caste surrounded by pomp and glitter is repugnant and in this war the greatest care is being

taken to guard against a revival of the regime which was ended at Sedan. The distinction conferred upon Joffre, therefore, can be regarded as a supreme tribute to one for whom no honor could be too high. It has a simple dignity which will fit the wearer better than any other title that the nation could create. It emphasizes Joffre's secure place in the front rank of the great soldiers of France who throughout the centuries have won for her the highest military renown. None of them, however, not even Condé or Turenne, was tested in the fierce fires which Joffre endured unflinchingly. Their greatness was based upon successes won under favorable auspices in wars of conquest. Joffre's flame burned brightest in the hour of adversity. None of the others saved France, for none of them was confronted with the supreme crisis where a mistake meant irreparable disaster to the nation. France has made Joffre a marshal, because her act represents the loftiest expression of her gratitude to the man who wrought her salvation and laid the foundation for an influence and a prestige among the nations of the world greater than she ever possessed before.

A Canadian correspondent in England, noted chiefly for the awe in which he holds snobocracy, says that Sir Max Aitken was made a peer because of the part played by him in the expulsion of the Asquith government from office. That explains everything. We know, now, why Canada's official "Eye-Witness" did no eye-witnessing. He was engaged on a mightier task. He was using all his great talent, developed in Canada as a company promoter, in promoting cabinet changes, and the peerage is a grateful kingdom's reward. But the distinction, if that expression can properly be applied in the present instance, may be premature. It may be found that the cabinet changes were not for the best, after all. Suppose the ginger group, now in supreme control, lost a dozen dreadnoughts in some hazardous exploit and rushed our army into a disaster; would Sir Max have to return his title? Perish the thought! Meanwhile, who is doing the eye-witnessing?

A correspondent chides the newspapers for alleged lack of sympathy for employees of stores who are affected by the Saturday half-holiday. The Times has any amount of sympathy for employees of stores, but it is not in sympathy with the Saturday half-holiday idea, nor with any measure that injuriously affects business. Conditions in British Columbia are such at the present time that our business men cannot afford to close their doors to a single dollar. Business turned away upon one day does not come back another day. The Saturday closing scheme was sprung upon the community hastily by a government in the throes of dissolution and it was adopted by the communities as the lesser of two evils. There are other methods of giving employees holidays to which they are entitled than by arbitrarily closing a city up tight upon what always has been the best business day of the week.

In multiplicity of "notes" the good president seems to have lost his bearings. First he said the United States could not intervene for peace unless all the powers of the entente signified their assent to such a move. Then when charged with being an instrument of Germany in issuing a "note" almost simultaneously with the appearance of the Hun overture, Mr. Wilson explained that his peace document had been in course of preparation for some considerable time and that the apparently suspicious appearance of the two notes almost side by side simply was a coincidence. The visit of Ambassador Gerard of Berlin to Washington also was a coincidence, we suppose, but most of the sceptical people of a suspicious world will continue to think that the American ambassador was the bearer of important information when he landed in Washington.

London Daily Mail: From time immemorial—and the beginnings of the English navy go back to an age long before there was a Prussia or a Germany—the right of arming merchant vessels for their own defence has existed unchallenged. In Armada days merchant ships generally carried small guns known as "mignons" or "fowlers." In the days of the Commonwealth they were so well armed that, as a great expert of that period boasted, they "contended their trade without expecting convoys." Under Charles II a law was passed, which still remains the law of the land, imposing a penalty of six months imprisonment on mariners or officers of merchant ships who declined or refused to defend their ships. In the Napoleonic wars, as abundant records prove, our merchantmen carried an armament up to twenty or even thirty guns.

Americans appear to be somewhat concerned about the prospect of Atlantic shipping being diverted northward to the ports of Canada. They point out that the facilities at our ports are limited. But they can be improved, and improvements are made

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For the benefit of those who could not get in before Christmas, I am continuing my special price offer for two or three weeks longer of

\$5 Glasses

This includes my best gold-filled mountings, periscope lenses and careful test of the eyes. You can have eyeglasses or spectacles—frames or rimless—at the above price. Compound lenses and torics will cost you a little more. All my work is guaranteed.

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Optician and Optometrist, Phone 531. Suite 8-10, Cor Douglas, 54 Yates St.

rapidly in these strenuous days. Also the advantages of a short ocean route may be demonstrated and trade may be developed and fixed in permanent channels. It is provisions the nations of Europe need now, not manufactures, and the eastern states have no food for export. Canada has, and the western states can ship just as advantageously through eastern Canadian ports as through eastern American ports.

A few hours before the Wilson bid for mediation the president declared positively that he would not make any overtures until he was informed by both sides that action by him would be welcomed by them. When he sent his note shortly afterwards he stated that it had been in contemplation a long time and therefore had no connection with the German proposal. There clearly was a cog missing, and Lansing undoubtedly supplied it in his first explanation. The president's course was due to panic, caused by Germany's threat to resume unrestricted submarine warfare which might involve the United States, if she did not obtain peace.

Herr Harden, who executed a verbal war dance when the Huns commenced their raid upon civilization by invading Belgium and declared that the war was Germany's bid for domination of the world, now demands an immediate armistice. He admits that all dreams of dominion and loot and indemnities have vanished and that the one end to be kept in mind is escape from the hell the war has created. Max was frank in the beginning and does not appear to be afraid of speaking his mind now that the inevitable end may be discerned.

Hall Caine says Wilson's peace note was a staggering blow to the allies, almost a knockout blow to Great Britain. Being a fiction writer of more or less note, Hall is entitled to a certain amount of latitude. But the sober

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STORE HOURS: 8.30 TO 6 P.M. FRIDAY, 9.30. SATURDAY, 1 P.M.

Ladies' Pure Wool Knitted Sports Coats

These Will Make Very Pleasing New Year Gifts

These Knitted Sports Coats will be found most useful for present wear. They are ideal garments for the skater, golfer, the walker, also for business and general street wear. Each Coat or set is of the best manufacture, and most reliable.

Smart Knitted Coat at \$7.50—Made from all pure-wool in a nice brush finish, square collar, full belt and pockets, in shades of rose, sage blue, cravenette and apple green, trimmed with white.

Three-Piece Wool Sports Set at \$8.75—A beautiful quality in a plain weave, with brushed wool trimmings. In shades of cardinal, emerald, sage, coral, canary and white. Each set comprises coat, sash and cap to match.

—Selling, First Floor

BALANCE OF TOYS AND WHEEL GOODS MUST BE CLEARED IMMEDIATELY

We want to begin straightening up our third floor in readiness for our January Sale, so that it is imperative that all toys and wheel goods left over be cleared immediately. We have therefore made special clean-up prices to insure a speedy clearance. If you have Toys to buy for party trees or school treats now is your chance to do so at a saving. Come in and look around.

—Toyland, Third Floor

Dressing Gowns of Eiderdown Flannel You Will Appreciate \$5.75

One cannot but appreciate these warm, cosy garments for they are so attractive in appearance and so beautifully warm in wearing. Each gown is finished in a pretty shade of mauve, rose, grey, sage blue, sky, dark blue or red. Some plain, others in fancy designs. Each gown has a wide collar and is finished with trimmings of satin ribbons and silk cord girdle. Inexpensively priced at \$5.75

Cold Nights Make an Eiderdown Comforter a Necessity

The last few nights have demonstrated the necessity of a warm, cosy Comforter. There is nothing like an Eiderdown Quilt for warmth giving. They are light, attractive and perfectly hygienic, being filled of fine grade eiderdown and each quilt is ventilated. You choose from a splendid variety of new patterns and shades in plain and fancy satens and satins. Prices range up to \$42.50 from \$6.75

—Staples, Main Floor

A Nice Assortment of New Novelty Collars

In all the leading shapes and in dainty materials—Georgette crepes, crepe de chins, organdies, lace, fine muslins and broadcloths. Prices range 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00 and up to \$3.00

—Selling, Main Floor

Women's Warm Flannelette Nightgowns, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50

We offer at the above three prices a splendid range of warm, cosy Flannelette Nightgowns. These are very special values, worthy of your closest investigation. They are made from quality flannelettes that will prove most satisfactory in wear. There are various styles in slip-over and open fronts with trimmings of embroidery or lace. You will find it to your advantage to secure a supply while present stocks last as these qualities are sure to cost you more with future deliveries. All sizes. Special at \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50

—Selling, First Floor

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Is a hurry-up breakfast maker. Quickly makes dandy, delicious, crisp toast—rightly browned—on top, while bacon is done to a tasty finish in the underdish below. Bacon and eggs just as simple. Eggs in a frypan on top; bacon in the underdish. El Grilstovo does all this right at your elbow on the breakfast table; no running to and from the kitchen.

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Recent successes at McGill University. Second place in Canada in 1915 at the Royal Military College, Kingston. Canadian Navy, C. C. Surveyors' Preliminary Cadet Corps and Shooting. Separate and special arrangements for Junior Boys.

BOYS TAKEN FROM 8 YEARS OF AGE AND UPWARDSExeter term commences Wednesday, January 19, 1917.
Yardmaster—Rev. W. W. Bolton, M.A. (Cantab.).
Headmaster—J. C. Barnack, Esq. (London University).
For particulars and prospectus apply the Headmaster.**For Christmas or New Years**

Present your son or employee with a

MEMBERSHIP TICKET

in the Young Men's Christian Association.

Good for a whole year. Good in all parts of the world. Boys 12 to 14, 25¢; 15 to 17, 50¢. Young men 18 and over, \$1.00. Call at building, Blanshard St., for particulars.

STAMPED—READY FOR MAILING
VICTORIA DAILY TIMES
APPLY OFFICE, 5c. PER COPY**Demand Phoenix Stout. Home product.**

Furnaces Installed and Repaired—Watson & McGregor, Ltd., 647 Johnson St.

Hudson's Bay "Imperial" Lager Beer, pints, \$1.00 per dozen.

Porter's Committee Rooms, corner Broad and Pandora streets. Phone 865.

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Seven Old Established Companies outside the fire insurance combine. Let us quote you our anti-combine rates. Duck & Johnston, 618 Johnson street.

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Cul Auto Service is now prepared to furnish autos or taxis at any hour of the day or night at reasonable rates. Phone 599.

Demand Phoenix Stout. Home product.

"Why Pay High Rates for fire insurance? See the anti-combine agents, Duck & Johnston," 618 Johnson St.

Demand Phoenix Stout. Home product.

The B. & V. Club will demonstrate the two-step dance Wednesday night, Connaught Hall.

Elite Studio—Sepia Crayon Enlargements, Portraits and Lantern Slides, 909 Government St.

Hudson's Bay "Imperial" Lager Beer, pints, 3 for 50c.

Try Dr. Conway's M. D. Plaster for rheumatism, neuralgia, catarrh, Bright's disease, liver and stomach trouble.

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English Mail. An English mail which left the Old Country yesterday, it consisted of 102 bags of parcel post, 112 of papers, and 29 of letters.

Motion of Condolence.—The city council yesterday passed a motion of condolence with the relatives of the late Andrew Forbes, former superintendent of the outside market.

To Provide Against Deficit.—The Saanich council yesterday passed an annual loan security by-law, in order to carry the deficit at the bank caused through the shortage on tax payments. The sum of \$10,000 will be so carried.

New Year's Dance.—The Pythian Club members are providing a special programme for their friends at their dance on New Year's night. A number of prizes will be given for the best dancers, and something entirely new is promised in the way of contests. Admission by invitation only.

Prince Rupert Effects Saving.—The city of Prince Rupert has been able to effect a saving of \$44,300 in the cost of administration this year as against 1915. This most satisfactory result for the taxpayers is detailed in a report submitted to the city council at its last meeting. The net saving in wages and the administration of the various city hall departments was \$16,266, while a careful analysis shows that the actual saving in labor has been \$18,999.

Saanich Ward Meetings.—The following are the dates of the Saanich meetings to be held during the approaching municipal election: Ward I, January 12, Cedar Hill school; Ward II, January 9, Tolmie school; Ward III, January 8, Gordon Head hall; Ward IV, January 11, at Colquhoun hall; Ward V, January 2, at Royal Oak hall; Ward VI, January 4, at Saanichton Temperance hall; Ward VII, January 10, Presbyterian church, Tillicum road. All meetings will commence at 8 o'clock.

At Lynn Valley School.—The usual closing exercises took place on Friday last at the Lynn Valley school when the children gave their annual concert, and had their Christmas tree, which was laden with numerous cards of greeting and other good things. At the same time the teachers and children of the entrance class took advantage of the occasion to present Principal Grieve with a valuable gold scarf-pin, wallet and silk-tie, on his relinquishing the principalship and as a mark of appreciation and kindly feeling towards him. He has been with the school for two and a half years.

Well-Known Jewelry Firm forced to vacate premises. Store occupied by F. L. Haynes, 1124 Government street, is to be pulled down. Stock must be disposed of regardless of cost. See windows for prices.

Demand Phoenix Stout. Home product.

Manicurist at the Capital Barber Shop.

Hudson's Bay "Imperial" Lager Beer, pints, 3 for 25c.

OLD RESIDENT DIES WHILE VISITING HERE

William T. Hardaker, Formerly Auctioneer in Victoria, Succumbs at Hospital

William T. Hardaker, at one time a resident of the city and very well-known to many who are still living here, passed away at the Royal Jubilee hospital late yesterday afternoon. The deceased gentleman, who had been visiting with his friends in the James Bay district of the last few weeks, came to Victoria first many years ago from England, and ranked among the pioneer residents of the city. He carried on business as an auctioneer until about ten years ago, on his retirement returning with his wife and family to England. About a month ago he came back to the coast for a visit, and his death occurred suddenly with very little preliminary warning of the illness to which he succumbed. He is survived by his wife, who is in England.

The late Mr. Hardaker was a staunch Liberal, and was one of the charter members of the "Young Liberal Club," which was organized here about twenty years ago, always maintaining his interest in the organization until he had removed to the Old Country. He was about sixty years of age.

Relatives in the Old Country have been called for instructions as to the funeral, pending receipt of which no arrangements are being made.

STATEMENT ON CABARET

Balance of \$30 Remains After Paying Expenses of Entertainment.

The performance of the cabaret show, held at the Empress hotel on Dec. 19, for the purpose of providing Christmas cheer for the returned soldiers who are stationed at the Convalescent hospital, Esquimalt, netted \$490 in admission tickets.

The expenses were as follows: Presents purchased for 90 returned soldiers and presented to them on the evening of the 22nd, after their Christmas dinner, amounted to: \$27.50

Supper, cigars, cigarettes, lemonade and orangeade served to them on the evening of the 19th 79.00

Orchestra for cabaret show 22.50

Decorations for ballroom, consisting of tulle, draperies, balloons, etc. 23.15

Motor cars conveying soldiers from Esquimalt to Empress hotel and return both nights 31.00

Expenses of staff in connection with cabaret show—electrician, upholsterer, waiters for soldiers, bell boys 27.00

Posters 5.00

Total \$450.00

The balance, amounting to \$30.35 will be handed over to the Convalescent hospital for the purpose of buying smokes for the soldiers.

MARRIED IN SCOTLAND

Lieut. R. Morrison and Miss Mathison Wedded; Former Popular Local Resident.

Lieut. Robert Morrison, of the 67th (Pioneer) Battalion, Western Scotland, who left here with that unit, was married on December 1 in the Old Country to Miss Mathison, of Scotland. Having been a resident here for several years during which period his talents as a musician and other attainments won him many close friends, there are many who will wish him and Mrs. Morrison every happiness.

BEANS ARE COUNTED

Exactly 3,173 in Jar Displayed by O'Connell's, Ltd.; Motor-Car Winner Not Announced.

The beans contained in a jar, which has been on exhibition at Messrs. O'Connell's, Ltd., Government street, for some weeks, and which have been the subject of much attention, inasmuch as on the estimating of the number within the receptacle depends the disposition of the new motor car shown on the premises, were counted yesterday. This tedious task was supervised by J. L. Tait, manager of the Colonist Pig & Pub. Co., and William Lemm, advertising manager of the Times Pig & Pub. Co. After an hour's work they counted that there were 3,173 beans. The winner of the coveted car, it is announced, will not be made known for several days because of the necessity of scrutinizing some 25,000 coupons on which are the guesses of participants.

Man Rescues Child.—A neighbor, Mr. Jennings, rescued the nine-year-old child of Mrs. Edwards from a burning building when the home was destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon. The gutted premises are situated on Rowan street, near Cedar Hill road, and at the time Mrs. Edwards and child were downtown. The other members of the family were playing outside. The loss was \$800 on the structure, and \$300 to \$400 on contents. Pte. Edwards, the father, is with the 20th Battalion.

Business Girls' Club.—The following is the programme of January events arranged under the Business Girls' Club auspices to take place at the Y. W. C. A.: January 8, 6 to 7 p.m., supper; 7 to 8 p.m., Red Cross work and initiation; 8 to 9 p.m., gymnasium exercises; 9 to 10 p.m., dramatic class meets. January 10, 6 to 7 p.m., supper; 7 to 8 p.m., lecture; 8 to 9 p.m., gymnasium exercises; 9 to 10 p.m., dramatic class meeting. January 17, 7 to 9 p.m., musical evening in charge of Mrs. Seales; 9 to 10 p.m., refreshments and social time. January 24, 6 to 7 p.m., supper; 7 to 8 p.m., address on "Parliamentary Law," Mrs. Jenkins; 8 to 9 p.m., gymnasium exercises; 9 to 10 p.m., dramatic class meets.

Y.W.C.A. TO ENTERTAIN FRIENDS TO-NIGHT

Welcome to Be Given All Who Wish to Attend Entertainment

To-night the Y. W. C. A., 512 Douglas street, is to be en fete with the annual Christmas holiday party, and a cordial invitation is extended to all young women of the city to attend and bring their men friends. The proceedings will start at eight o'clock, and the entertainment will open with a short programme. Later the guests will be invited to the big recreation and tea-room upstairs, where all manner of games have been arranged for, and preparation made for the serving of refreshments. Dancing will be in order and it is anticipated that the pastime will prove as popular as usual.

The Business Girls' club of Victoria is co-operating with the association to make the party a success. It is the wish of the association that all young women in the city should make the Y. W. C. A. building their home, where they can entertain their men and men friends. The halls and reception rooms have been made very attractive with evergreens, holly and Christmas bells, and everything presents an appearance of welcome to the lonely visitor.

SECOND PERFORMANCE OF PANTOMIME GIVEN

Many Attend "Puss in Boots" Entertainment at Royal Victoria Theatre

It was only natural to assume that after the strenuous entertainment of Christmas Day in most families there would be a species of suspended animation in all the normal activities, and this became apparent in the second night's attendance at the pantomime, "Puss in Boots," which is running this week at the Royal Victoria theatre. Nevertheless there was a gratifyingly large attendance yesterday, and it may be anticipated that as the week progresses fresh energy will be rallied among the younger folk as well as their elders, and full houses supplied for each performance.

If the audience was somewhat slighter than on the night of the first performance, the playing was several degrees better, moving quicker, with greater cohesion, and with the assurance which comes after a complete "try out." There was, too, a slight whittling down of the matter, this assisting in the shortening of an entertainment which is still a trifle overlong for people who have a long way to go to get home.

Every minute of the pantomime has its laugh, and, although juveniles were not so numerous among the spectators as on the first night, there was still immense appreciation of the clever harlequinade which terminated the performance. Miss Du Bois's dancing is distinctive, and her detached impersonal grace is delightfully in keeping with the dumb show of which she is a part. The two knock-about are wonderfully active and conduct their part of the show in the manner of skilled and highly-trained professionals. The costermonger (J. Shakespeare) has the indifferent stowch which adds the necessary picturesqueness to the many buttoned gypsy dress. One of the strokes of genius on the part of the author is the business of pumping up with a bellows the exhausted and prostrate donkey, whose acting is one of the comicallies of the play.

In the pantomime proper the dances continue to excite very favorable comment. One of the outstanding terpsichorean artists is little Kathleen Palmer, an extraordinarily gifted child who shows amazing promise as a ballet dancer. Her dancing revealed temperance and rare grace, and she was given, for the second time in the week, one of the biggest ovations of the evening.

The children's ballet in which she danced the pas seul was altogether charming, the little girls who took part in the charming scene being Barbara and Marina Bullock-Webster, Mabel Evans, Isabel Munn, Mona Graham, George Crook, Sylvia Appleby, Myriel Cook, Marjorie Spencer, Lucy Bryden, Mollie Hibben, Mary Bowker, Hilda Langton, Monica Davies and Elsie Taylor. The dolls' ballet in "Toyland," coming on at the same time as the fairies, was quaint and daintily mechanical, the lifeless punctuality of the movements being carried out with wonderful realism by the small tots who made up the personnel of the figure. Those who took part in this were Marguerite Sanderson, Athalia Gibson, Angela Voight, Gwendeth Jones, Betty Newton, Mildred Fleher, Yvonne Marc, Lay Finlay, Agnes Crou, May Cayla, Margaret Chaplin, Merrill Chaplin, Peggy Litchburg, Fay Foster and Betty McMillan.

The performance will run to-night, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night, and a matinee on Thursday afternoon. The proceeds, as has been advertised for weeks past, are to be divided between the French and the Canadian Red Cross Societies in Victoria.

Elk Club.—The regular monthly invitational dance will be held to-morrow night, Thursday, Dec. 28.

"Hiawatha." At the old Victoria theatre, Jan. 6, under the direction of Miss Helen Badgley, produced by the Daisy Chain chapter, I. O. O. F.

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For that small sum you can buy one of the incomparable Columbias. It will play music that will get you up on your toes and DANCING almost in spite of yourself. The best way to decide if you WANT a Columbia is to come in to-morrow and HEAR some of these

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NEW ONE-STEP	5436—Voices of Spring. Prince's Orchestra.
5814—Oh! Joe, With Your Fiddle and Bow You Stole My Heart Away. Prince's Band.	5838—Missouri Waltz. Prince's Orchestra.

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Jap Oranges, per box.....	48c	Chicken Wheat, 100-lb. sk.....	\$2.25
Anchor Dates, per package.....	10c	Nice Pure Coffee, fresh ground, per lb.....	25c
Fine Juicy Lemons, per dozen.....	17c	Oranges, nice navel, 3 dozen.....	50c

SPECIAL	
Genuine Ashcroft Potatoes—100-lb. sack.....	\$1.63
LYNN VALLEY JAM 4-lb. tin.....	39c

Ocean Brand Green Peas, per tin.....	10c	The People's Tea gives satisfaction. Per lb.....	30c
Black Cooking Figs, 3 lbs.....	25c	Nice Cheese, made in B. C. Per lb.....	25c
Maple Corn Flakes, 4 packets.....	25c	B. C. Sugar 20-lb. cotton sack.....	\$1.70
Mixed Candy, per lb.....	20c	Cape Cod Cranberries Per lb.....	14c
Quaker Brand Peas, Beans, Corn and Tomatoes, 2 cans.....	25c	Glycerine Soap Per tablet.....	10c

People's Favorite Butter, per lb., 45¢.....	85c	Mixed Peel—Orange, Citron and lemon, Ready-cut. Per lb.....	25c
For the particular table			

MONARCH, THE PEOPLE'S BREAD FLOUR 49-lb. sack.....	\$2.25
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"If you get it from THOMAS PLIMLEY it's all right."**MOTORISTS! Look at These TIRE SNAPS**

This is stock-taking time with us—a time of opportunity for every man who has tires to buy. These are odd lots and sizes, cut for a clearance before Jan. 1. Don't miss them.

30x3 1/2, plain.....	\$12.00
33x4, plain.....	\$21.10
33x4, Non-skid.....	\$23.25
34x4, Non-skid.....	\$24.50
36x4, Non-skid.....	\$22.75
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Deadman's Pure Ontario Honey. Per jar 25c, 35c, 45c and 95c. 5-lb. pails, each, \$1.35. Or in bulk, per lb.	25c
Malkin's Best Jams per jar	25c
Malkin's Best Jams 4-lb. pails	69c
Red Seal Marmalade 2 jars	25c
Robertson's Fig or Ginger Marmalade small jar	6c
Old Dutch or Lux 3 pkts.	25c
Nice Prunes 3 lbs.	25c
Robin Hood Oatmeal 10-lb. sack	55c
B. & K. Wheatflakes large pkg.	30c

Special To-morrow

Heinz Spaghetti, with tomato. A most delicious dish and all ready prepared; just requires warming. Reg. 25c 15c per tin. Special, 2 tins.

Hornick's Malted Milk, jar, 50c, 95c	\$3.50
Virol, pkg., \$1.20, 80c and	47c
Wizard Oil, bottle, 50c and	98c
Parisian Sage bottle	45c
Castor Oil, bottle, 30c and	10c
Hornet Playing Cards, reg. 20c pkg. Special 2 pkgs.	25c
Eucalyptus Oil, reg. 25c size, for.	20c
Syrup of White Pine reg. 25c size for.	20c
Balsam of Aniseed reg. 25c size for.	20c

H. O. KIRKHAM & CO., LTD.

Victoria, B. C. Duncan, B. C.

PHONES: Grocery, 178 and 179. Delivery, 5522. Fish and Provisions, 5520. Meat, 5521.

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Phone 5150

Every Day Is Bargain Day at Our Store

Just received a small shipment of our new Blouses of fine muslin, neatly trimmed with lace and large collar. Priced at \$1.50 and \$2.50. Silk Blouses, special values at \$3.50 and \$2.50. Ladies' Cashmere Hose in the well-known "Penman" line. Some extra values at, per pair, 60¢ and 75¢. "Penman's" Fine All-Wool Cashmere. Special value at, per pair, \$1.00. Boys' All-Wool Heavy Stockings, at, per pair, 75¢. Girls' Fine Ribbed All-Wool Cashmere Hose, all sizes. Priced from, per pair, 30¢ to 65¢.

PUSS IN BOOTS

Christmas Pantomime

Holders of booked seats should be careful not to make any mistake in the date of their tickets.

Tickets lettered 3 are for Dec. 27
Tickets lettered 4 are for Dec. 28
Tickets lettered 5 are for Dec. 29
Tickets lettered 6 are for Dec. 30

The box office will be removed from the Superfluties Shop to the

ROYAL VICTORIA THEATRE

HUNDREDS OF GOOD SEATS still obtainable for every performance. Prices: 25c, 50c and 75c.

The LADIES' SUPERFLUTIES COMMITTEE
Belmont House

DEFIES DEATH IN SMALL STEEL BOX

Herbert Brooks Consents to Try Difficult Feat in Government Street Window

Herbert Brooks, who is undoubtedly the most accomplished mystery man to visit this city, will attempt a remarkable feat in the store window of Fletcher Bros' music house, Government street, between the hours of 11 a. m. and 1 p. m., Thursday noon. Mr. Brooks will allow himself to be confined inside a steel trunk measuring 2x16 inches, and will remain in this very cramped position for two hours. While in the trunk he will smoke continuously and will, at the request of bystanders, pass cards called for through a small hole in the side of the trunk. He will write a description of the person making the request.

Doctors have often claimed that it is impossible for any human being to occupy such a cramped position inside a closed box for so long and survive. In order to demonstrate that the feat can be done, Mr. Brooks has consented to place himself in such a position in the Fletcher Bros' window for the two hours between 11 and 1 o'clock on Thursday. Anyone may see him enter the chest at 11 o'clock and leave it at 1 o'clock, and ample evidence of his being in the trunk during the interval will be given to those watching the performance.

Herbert Brooks is appearing at the Pantages theatre this week with his clever card manipulations and trunk escape mystery. He is positively the most wonderful and interesting performer in this line that has ever appeared in Victoria, not excepting the baffling and famous Hardeen, who was here a few weeks ago.

Mr. Brooks makes his cabinet escape on the stage in less than one minute from a steel trunk which is securely locked, then laced into a canvas bag and further tricked with ropes. His performance is clever, rapid and defies explanation, as anyone who has been fortunate enough to visit the Pantages this week will testify.

Mr. Brooks is the man who won the famous \$20,000 suit against Maskeleyne and Devant, the famous magicians of London, as a result of their having offered a \$2,500 challenge to anyone who would duplicate their trunk mystery. Mr. Brooks claimed the reward and, after fighting it to the highest court, the case was decided in his favor with full costs. He has greatly improved on his original trick, which was acknowledged at that time to be superior to that of Maskeleyne and Devant.

The Imperial Military Octette, skilled musicians, playing a diversity of music from the classical to the latest ragtime, is the other headline attraction on the current bill with Herbert Brooks. The "Witch" Four, a charming study in black and silver by four girls, offer vocal and dancing numbers; Bob and Bill Millard, trick cycle riders; Correll and Gillette, rapid-fire song, patter and comedy; and Wilbur Brown plays the ukulele.

The sixth chapter of the "Shieling Shadow" serial completes an interesting holiday bill.

AT THE THEATRES

DOMINION THEATRE.

"When you have finished the scene in the lions' cage, you will go up in the balloon and drop in the parachute. Then we will stage the Hula Hula dance with the Hawaiian orchestra and to-morrow we will do the big burglary scene." If a motion picture director said that to you all in one breath you would probably faint. When J. Searle Davie made that speech to Ann Pennington she blinked hard and meekly acquiesced. For it meant that the little "Ziegfeld Follies" star was to appear in a second famous Paramount picture, "The Rainbow Princess," which is the attraction at the Dominion this evening.

COLUMBIA.

"The Dumb Girl of Portici," the greatest motion picture masterpiece the Universal Film Manufacturing Co. ever produced, is being featured at the Columbia theatre this week. This is the picture in which the incomparable Anna Pavlova makes her debut. On the motion picture screen—and reviewers who had the pleasure of witnessing an advance showing of this picture, are unanimous in their opinion that no person save the indomitable Pavlova could interpret the role of "Fenella" with the same amount of sincerity and get as much out of the role of the dumb girl of the sea village than could Pavlova.

"The Dumb Girl of Portici," needing flour and not possessing enough money to pay for it and also meet the heavy tax imposed on flour, smuggles a bag of meal into the city by hiding it under her shawl. At the gate a hole is accidentally torn in the bag and a tiny stream of meal escapes from this unnoticed by Fenella, which was the girl's name. The tax collector discovers the spilled meal and the result was that Fenella was soon placed under arrest. Her brother and lover hurry to her assistance, but have no money to pay the fine. However, it is paid by the son of the viceroys of Naples, who is in disguise. Her benefactor learns that her brother is recognized as a leader among the people.

The viceroys' son whose name is Alphonso becomes fascinated with Fenella and is a frequent visitor to the fishermen's village where she lives, neglecting Lady Elvira, his betrothed wife. A white night, moonlight, soft music, the call of youth and warm southern blood, and the morning comes, bringing realization. Hurriedly Alphonso returns to the city, leaving the dumb girl weeping silently. Later when her brother Masanello finds her clinging desperately to Alphonso's scarf the story is plain to him.

A revolution takes place shortly after the disappearance of Fenella and once when she had escaped, she appealed to Lady Elvira who learns the truth. Fenella was promised protection, but Perrone, a captain of the guards, intercepts her and has her sent back to

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Undoubtedly the Best Bracelet Watch Ever Offered

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Central Building, Corner View and Broad Sts.

TO-NIGHT'S ATTRACTIONS

PANTAGES THEATRE

ALL THIS WEEK
IMPERIAL MILITARY OCTETTE
Singers and Instrumentalists.
HERBERT BROOKS
Mystery Entertainer.
And Five Other Features.
Matinee, 3, Night, 7 and 9.

DOMINION THEATRE

ANNA PENNINGTON
in
"THE RAINBOW PRINCESS"
A Romance of Circus Life.

VARIETY THEATRE

To-day
"Barriers of Society"

Columbia Theatre

TO-DAY
ANNA PAVLOVA
The Great Russian Dancer
10-Piece Orchestra-10

prison. During the hottest time of the outbreak the dumb girl again escapes. Her brother, through being poisoned, has lost control over the people, but in an unexpected attack by the viceroys' forces, he regains his mind and recognizing Alphonso as the betrayer of his sister, Masanello makes a wild plunge at him, but Fenella who has been watching nearby, stands in front of Alphonso and receives the fatal blow. Wild with grief, her brother kills himself, and the broken-hearted Alphonso can only gather the dying girl in his arms.

PLAYING "HIAWATHA"

Daisy Chain Chapter, I. O. O. E., Busy Preparing for Performance on January 6.

A number of young patriotic workers, members of the Daisy Chain Chapter, I. O. O. E., are spending a big part of their Christmas holidays preparing for a performance which is to be given in aid of the funds which are devoted to sending comforts to soldiers, etc. The performance under preparation is "Hiawatha," an adaptation of the well known Longfellow poem by Miss Helen Badgley, of Vancouver. Special music, typically Indian in character, has been found for the production, and dances by Indian maidens and Indian braves will add to the intended effect of the entertainment.

Altogether 40 characters will be in the play. Two Hiawathas are required, Miss Mary Ross having been cast to take the part of the brave Indian as a little boy, and Miss Margaret Campbell as Hiawatha, the man. Minnehaha will be impersonated by Katie Collinson, and Chivavos, "the sweet singer," will be Miss Charlotte Spencer, whose assistance the Daisy Chain Chapter is delighted to have on this important occasion.

The performance is to be given on Saturday, January 6, at the old Victoria theatre, and it is earnestly hoped that the public will liberally patronize an undertaking which is intended to augment the patriotic funds of the chapter.

For New Year Cheer—Decorations, 40c to \$1.75; Wine Glasses, \$1.50 to \$2.50 dozen; Lemonade Jugs, 40c to \$1.00; Lemonade Glasses, 75c to \$2.00 dozen; Cork Screws, 10c. R. A. Brown & Co., 1302 Douglas St.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

All personal items sent by mail for publication must be signed with the name and address of the sender.

S. D. Trethewey, of Chilliwack, is at the Dominion.

E. L. Papke, of Vancouver, is at the Metropolis hotel.

L. L. Butler is registered at the Metropolis hotel.

A. J. Scott, of Calgary, is staying at the Empress hotel.

W. R. H. Prescott, of Alberni, is at the Dominion hotel.

W. J. Williams, of Vancouver, is at the Metropolis hotel.

L. Charlton, of Calgary, is a guest at the Strathcona hotel.

O. H. Wilson, of Calgary, is a guest at the Metropolis hotel.

W. Payne, of Vancouver, is a guest at the Metropolis hotel.

W. F. Dixon, of Toronto, is a guest at the Metropolis hotel.

R. McKicking, of Seattle, Wash., is at the Metropolis hotel.

F. A. Baker, of Koksilah, is registered at the Dominion hotel.

J. A. Kendall, of Port Alberni, is staying at the Dominion hotel.

Thos. Green, of James Island, is a guest at the Metropolis hotel.

Major C. L. Wain, of Kamloops, is staying at the Dominion hotel.

Arthur Y. Larry, of Duncan, is a guest at the Strathcona hotel.

P. D. Busche, of Work Point, is a guest at the Strathcona hotel.

R. M. Archer, of Nanaimo, has registered at the Strathcona hotel.

T. Thomas, of James Island, is registered at the Metropolis hotel.

A. Hawthornwaite, of Moose Jaw, Sask., is at the Metropolis hotel.

J. Johnson and P. Olson, of Portland, Ore., are at the Metropolis hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Rowa, of James Island, are guests at the Metropolis hotel.

Lieut. Milliken, of New Westminster, is a guest at the Metropolis hotel.

Geo. Wallace, of New Westminster, is staying at the Strathcona hotel.

D. C. Roberts, of Esquimalt, has registered at the Strathcona hotel.

T. F. Armstrong, of this city, has registered at the Strathcona hotel.

Miss E. Goodness, of Nanaimo, has registered at the Strathcona hotel.

Mrs. Alington and child, of Duncan, are staying at the Strathcona hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson, of Mill Bay, are staying at the Strathcona hotel.

Edward A. Southworth, of San Francisco, is a guest at the Empress hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Borden, of Shoshone, Idaho, are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Frank N. Borden at Lake Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. George Ward and Miss E. Wilson, Ward, of Ashcroft, are registered at the Empress hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Ostrander and Mr. and Mrs. Phillips Morrison, of Seattle, are guests at the Empress hotel. Mr. Ostrander is the well known shipping man on the Sound.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Stewart, of Seattle, are staying at the Strathcona hotel.

James Godfrey and Mrs. Godfrey, of Nanaimo, are guests of the Dominion hotel.

Miss S. C. Kennedy, a visitor from Toronto, is a guest of the Dominion hotel.

J. Bremner and Mrs. Bremner, of Travers, are guests of the Dominion hotel.

Wm. F. Akerman, of South Salt Spring Island, is staying at the Dominion.

L. W. Hamilton and Mrs. Hamilton, of Vancouver, are registered at the Dominion.

T. C. Yeatman and Mrs. Yeatman, of Valdez Island, are new arrivals at the Dominion hotel.

F. D. McNaughton and Mrs. McNaughton, of Brooks, Alta., are at the Dominion hotel.

Evan R. Miles and Mrs. Miles, of Carbonado, Wash., are staying at the Dominion hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Blackwood-Wildman, of Quamichan Lake, are staying at the Strathcona hotel.

Master and Mrs. Cheeke and Mrs. Oldham, of Cobble Hill, are staying at the Strathcona hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Ruscombe Poole, of Quamichan Lake, have registered at the Strathcona hotel.

The many friends of P. A. Goodwin will be pleased to hear he is progressing favorably at St. Joseph's hospital.

Yesterday's arrivals at the Dominion hotel include A. Shepherd, H. Day, H.

Gordon Doyle LIMITED

Store Hours: 9.30 a. m. to 6 p. m.
Friday, 9.30 p. m.; Saturday, 1 p. m.

Announcing an Extraordinary Clearance of Trimmed Millinery

Little need to dwell upon the importance of this event since the prices clearly indicate an event of great interest. Any woman who desires to purchase Millinery will find this opportunity well worthy of consideration because the unlimited choice and the values are exceptional in the extreme.

Models for every occasion are reported—in fact all of our Fall and Winter Hats are offered.

Note the Following

Regular to \$18.50 Trimmed Hat for \$7.50
Regular to \$12.50 Trimmed Hat for \$4.50
Regular to \$8.50 Trimmed Hat for \$2.75
Sports Hats that were \$3.75 to \$5.00, for \$1.75

A GREAT CLEARANCE OF WOMEN'S WINTER COATS AT \$7.50, \$12.00, \$15.00 AND \$19.50

Extraordinary Sale of Swiss

Nainsook and Cambric

Embroidery

35 Per Cent to 50 Per Cent Discount

The collection consists of a large assortment of discontinued designs in beadings, seamings, edges, insertions, flouncings and allovers. The qualities are strictly high-grade in every particular and the designs exceptionally dainty. See window display.

Edges, Beadings, Seamings and Insertions, 1 1/2 to 6 ins. wide. Special, 7 1/2¢, 10¢, 15¢, 17 1/2¢, 25¢, 35¢ and 50¢

18-Inch Flouncings. Special, 35¢ to 75¢ per yd.

24-Inch Allovers. Special, 75¢ and \$1.25 per yd.

27-Inch Baby and Skirt Flouncings. Special at 35¢, 50¢, 75¢, 95¢ and \$1.25 per yd.

On Sale at 35 to 50 Per Cent Discount

Phones—Ground Floor 1876

First Floor—Ready-to-Wear Section 5329
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Toronto FOR BOYS Canada
Careful Oversight. Thorough Instruction. Large Playing Fields. Excellent Situation.
Re-opens Jan. 11, 1917.
REV. D. BRUCE MACDONALD, M.A., LL.D., HEADMASTER

W. Fry, Roy McDermid, F. Peacock and S. W. Brock, of Vancouver.

The Vancouver arrivals at the Strathcona hotel include W. B. Anderson, Mrs. Bartram and daughter, Miss E. MacKenzie, S. D. Wheldon and Geo. Wallace.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Cliphant, Sr., will leave for California to-day for the winter months. Mr. Cliphant is going south for the benefit of his health, having only recently recovered from a severe attack of la grippe which threatened to develop into pneumonia.

On Christmas evening, in the presence of a large number of friends, a very pretty wedding took place at 124 Eberts street, the residence of the bride's parents, when the Rev. Dr. Campbell celebrated the marriage of Herbert A. Featherston, of Seattle, and Miss Susie Elizabeth Lindsay, of Mr. and Mrs. John McIntyre Lindsay. The bridegroom was accompanied by R. W. McKnight, and the bride was attended by Miss Christina Barrie Macgregor. The bride was attired in a gown of apricot silk crepe de chine, trimmed with silk lace, and carried a bouquet of bridal roses. The bridesmaid wore a gown of pale blue silk, and carried a bouquet of pink carnations. The bride's mother wore a gown of purple messaline silk, with collar of Georgette crepe. The house was artistically decorated with white chrysanthemums and pink carnations. After the ceremony supper was served in the dining room. The bride's traveling suit was navy blue poplin, seal plush coat, mink fur and hat of white corded silk with black onyx. Mr. and Mrs. Featherston left by the midnight boat for Seattle via Vancouver, where they are to reside.

Newly Furnished Housekeeping Rooms. Prices reasonable. Fairfield Hotel. Phone 3292-6.

The Hotel Metropolis

This new fireproof hotel, one of the best equipped and most beautifully appointed hotels in the city, offers

Special Rates During the Winter Months

Our rooms, single or en suite, with or without private bath. Steam heat, hot and cold water, telephone in every room. Why not enjoy warmth and comfort at this home-like hotel? We cordially invite your inspection.

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THE TEA KETTLE

Miss M. Woodridge
Corner Douglas and View Streets
Phone 4096

We Deliver Immediately—Anywhere
Phone your order to 4253

THE HUDSON'S BAY CO.
WINE DEPARTMENT
1222 Douglas St. Open till 10 p. m.

VICTORIAN STARTS NEW COAL INDUSTRY

William Oliphant, Sr., Responsible for Development of Large Alberta Deposits

William Oliphant, Sr., of this city, is responsible for the launching of a new industry in Alberta which promises to develop into large proportions. In this connection an Edmonton newspaper says:

Another half-million dollar mining company has been added to the roll of Edmonton industries. Letters of incorporation were granted last week to Oliphant Munson Collieries, a coal mining concern that will operate in the fields west of Edmonton on the Mountain Park branch of the Grand Trunk Pacific. The new company will take over the leases and mining rights of William Oliphant, who has already partly developed a large tract of coal land at Coalspur and put on a producing basis what is said to be one of the most promising mining properties in the west. A survey of the limit was made some time ago, and a lease taken out by Mr. Oliphant, and for the last three months shipments of coal have been coming from the mine to the Edmonton market. It is now proposed to develop the property on a more extensive scale, installing a new plant and widening its operations as soon as market conditions will permit.

A tract of 1,920 acres at Coalspur, southwest of the Bickerdike junction on the G. T. P., is held by the newly incorporated company. It is filled with coal, in seams from 20 to 40 feet thick, and the present workings are on a slope, with tunnel-cutting instead of shaft. Coal is now being taken from the heart of the mountain and loaded directly from the chutes at the mouth of the tunnel into cars on the railway siding. It is stated that there are deposits of coal in the slope that will produce millions of tons, with mining reduced to the lowest degree of labor and cost. When the mine gets into full working order it will be, according to men who have inspected the property, one of the largest and most valuable in Alberta.

The company has an authorized capital of \$500,000, but is not a stock-selling proposition. William Oliphant, Ernest Henderson and H. H. Robertson are the incorporators. The charter gives right to engage in a general lumbering, trading and farming business as well as mining, and the head office of the company is in Edmonton.

Winner of Yacht—Edmund T. Kay, of 1721 Richmond avenue, was the holder of the winning ticket in the raffle of a model yacht by the Esquimalt Red Cross Society. The prize has been on exhibition in the windows of the Victoria and Island Development Association.

YOUR COLD will be easily relieved by taking a spoonful of

SCOTT'S EMULSION

after each meal. It fortifies the throat and chest while it enriches the blood to help avoid grippe, bronchitis and even pneumonia. Scott's is well worth insisting upon.

Scott & Bowne, Toronto, Ont. 16-14

Shall It Be Hair or No Hair



It Is Up to You
And Cuticura

LOOK FOR
THIS SIGN



Correll's Electric Garage 919 Fort St.
Electric vehicles charged and repaired.
Auto starting, lighting and ignition.

EXPLAINS WORK OF SALONICA HOSPITAL

Victoria Nursing Sister Tells of Local Unit's Experiences on Mediterranean

Rumors that we are to leave Salonica are rife again, and not altogether welcome, for we are now fast getting our "duration" quarters ship-shape, and succeeding in adjusting our mode of living and general viewpoint sufficiently to accept army life as it is and make the best of it, says a nursing sister in the latest number of The Convoy Call.

When we arrived someone kindly told us that the first five years here were likely to be the worst. We are quite sure the first six months were the worst.

When we left Macaulay Plains we could form four after about four attempts, and generally knew our right foot from our left, but we had still to learn the rigidity of army diet sheets and other things. The "out of bounds" places seemed so many and hard to avoid. In the early days of our sojourn a visit to the hospital or other ships in the harbor was our chief distraction, but how to reach a nearby wharf or landing place seemed to be a conundrum that only the ever-vigilant French sentry could solve.

At one time we feared we might have to leave Macedonia without setting foot in Salonica. It was hard to believe that this city of creamy-white stone buildings and dainty minarets could be altogether as foul and uninteresting as we were told. Our first trips to town? Who will ever forget them? Certainly not the sisters who went in the rain for fear of losing their turn or the unhappy M.O. who had to keep his eye on six sisters, no two of whom ever wanted to do the same thing at the same time. This is all far in the past, as is the sweltering summer heat, S. diet sheets, moving, etc. We know it is the places that are out of bounds that are unfortunate, not we, and we take it all as a matter of course. A trip to Salonica is as uninteresting as the necessary pass is easy to get. Once, to get in by ambulance was a treat; now, if the ambulance is going when we are, well and good, but we do not wait; there are motor lorries and aircraft repair yards and the ambulances of other units, all with kindly drivers ready to give a lift to the sisters.

Many of us, perhaps all, were very sure of two things when we joined the C.A.M.C. We were going to care for the wounded and contend with many hardships. We have done little of either. Our greatest hardship has been that we have had to care for the sick instead of the wounded. To the uninitiated this may sound cruel, but Tommy himself prefers to fall a victim to the Bulgars, knowing he has given as good as he got, to be strangled by the various microbes that lie in wait for him in every damp corner of the Struma and other places.

We cannot, however, complain that we have not been needed. If necessary there is the A. and D. room records of five figures, but most of us still have vivid memories of grilling days when we scarcely knew what to do for when the ice was scarce and the primus would not burn. Those days seem to be over for a time at least, but we are not to remain where we are, knowing that if we were not here someone else would be.

We have found healthful pastime in walking, riding, tennis and now hockey, at which we hope ere the winter is over to prove ourselves worthy of No. 5 C.O.H. and to be the better fitted for whatever the future holds in store for us, whether in France or England, where great deeds are done, or as a small part of the British Expeditionary Forces in Salonica.



MAJOR G. F. W. NICHOLSON
Of the 67th Pioneer Battalion, who has been granted his majority. He left Victoria with the rank of captain.

NAVAL FLYING CORPS

No More Canadians at Present Required in Great Britain.

Ottawa, Dec. 27.—It is stated by the department of naval service here that no more Canadians are at present required for the Royal Naval flying corps in Great Britain. Canada has been sending over candidates for this branch of the service at the rate of about forty per month and there is now a surplus with a waiting list. Until the surplus is absorbed no more will be taken from here. This, however, does not apply to the Royal Military Flying Corps.

SOLDIERS CELEBRATE

Most of Units Have Mid-Week Entertainments Instead of Christmas.

The officers and men who have been away on Christmas leave are returning, and by midnight to-night their leave expires. Many have already arrived and reported for duty.

In the 143rd Battalion the Christmas dinner is to be held to-morrow night, that being a time when most of the men will be here. General leave for this unit commences again on Saturday at noon and continues until Wednesday night of next week. During that time the half battalion which failed to get away at Christmas will take a holiday.

In the Army Service Corps there will be a smoker on Friday night for which a good musical programme has been prepared. As many of the men in this corps live in the distant parts of the province some of them get extended leave with the result that they will not be all in camp for the smoker.

The Fifth Regiment commenced its Christmas festivities with a dinner on Thursday last at the Black Rock battery at which there were about 75 present, including 40 of the overseas draft. There were speeches, songs and elocutionary selections and an enjoyable time was spent. The guard at Fort Macaulay will have its celebration to-morrow at 6 p.m. and the Red Hill and Belmont detachments to-morrow in the early afternoon.

SEVERAL VACANCIES

Ammunition Column is Part of Artillery and Ranks Next to Cavalry.

There are still a few places to fill in the ammunition column draft which is being raised in this city. The headquarters for the unit are at the Willows camp where applications will be received.

In order that there may be no wrong idea as to the duties of the members of an ammunition column and how it ranks, a member of the local artillery says:

"An ammunition column is part and parcel of the artillery. A brigade of artillery is composed of three batteries and a column. The column, of course, provides the ammunition for the guns and the men to replace casualties, and in turn draws on the artillery reinforcement drafts to fill the resulting vacancies.

"The layman has an idea that an ammunition column is some sort of an army service corps unit filled with rationaries, clothing and similar things, instead of a section of artillery and, in consequence, second only in order of precedence to cavalry."

Military Items

Some of the members of Number 5 General Hospital stationed at Salonica recently made a trip to the casualty clearing station at the front. They were away only a few days, but during that time they had some experiences, according to the latest number of the Convoy Call just received. The party consisted of Lt.-Col. K. D. Patton, Capt. J. T. Wall, Capt. D. J. Miller, N.-S. E. Lumsden, Lt.-S. M. McBride, N.-S. S. Heaney, N.-S. A. Taylor, N.-S. G. M. Carvill, Sgt. J. Stevenson, Cpl. W. McHardy, Private B. Thorntonsen, J. M. Baker, T. Pattinson, J. Syme, R. T. French and J. B. Tubbs.

The latest number of the Convoy Call published at No. 5 General Hospital, Salonica, under authority of Lieut.-Col. E. C. Hart, O.C., and with Capt. W. Wilson, editor in chief; Pte. F. Dunn, editor, and Capt. H. C. Frost and Sgt. H. Clarke as business managers, indicates that the members of that unit are all in good spirits and enjoying life as they get it in the Grecian port.

Capt. G. F. W. Nicholson, of the 67th, has been promoted to the position of major, according to word which has just been received by his wife, in this city.

Capt. J. C. Halsey has been made adjutant to the 102nd Battalion, Warden's Warriors.

The Victoria Cross posthumously awarded to Lieut. T. O. L. Wilkinson, of Comox, was recently presented personally to the father of the dead hero by the king at Buckingham Palace. Lieut. Wilkinson was killed in action while serving with the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment.

Pte. T. Ross, K.O.S.B., has died of wounds in England. He came from Vancouver.

The Princess Patricia's have opened a fair at the Savoy Hotel, London, in aid of the Saint Dunstan's fund for blinded sailors and soldiers. Sir Arthur Pearson has stated that a blinded officer at the home very quickly learned to use the typewriter, became an accomplished carman and dancer, and had secured an important post in a hydro-electric power works in Canada.

The following have recently been discharged from hospital in London: Lieuts. H. O. Shryer, A. R. Davidson, C. A. Pelletier, T. Kirkham, W. R. Lattimer, S. G. Ellis, E. V. Graham, A. S. Churchill, W. S. Hefferman, W. R. S. Smith, A. H. Taylor, J. E. Martin, Maj. Creelman, Capt. Dwyer, Lieut. J. R. Harley, Capt. Hudin, Lieut. C. T. Croucher, Lieut. C. H. James and Capt. W. B. Shaw.

Dr. W. E. Home, of Victoria, has been given the rank of major in the Royal Army Medical Corps, according to advices received here yesterday. Dr. Home left here last fall.

The Times has received a card of greeting from Lieut.-Col. W. J. H. Holmes and officers of the 3rd Canadian Pioneer, formerly the 46th Battalion, which is on active service on the French front.

CANADIAN NORTHERN IS AGAIN APPEALING

Right of New Westminster to Collect Taxes Goes to Appeal Court

After all, the next round in New Westminster's tax fight against the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway will not be fought in the supreme court of Canada, but in the appeal court of British Columbia.

When that city won its suits in the provincial supreme court and obtained judgments aggregating \$62,000 against the registered owners of the properties held by the company in that city, other than what is used for the actual carrying of its tracks and station grounds, the railway's solicitors, by consent, entered an appeal direct to Ottawa, realizing that the provincial appeal court would probably render the same judgment as it did a year ago in favor of the city, there being no difference in the cases.

However, the C.N.R. failed to deposit security for this appeal, \$500, within the sixty days allowed, and, as a result, it was denied the privilege of entering an appeal in the supreme court of Canada. But the time allowed in which to enter an appeal to the British Columbia appeal court is ninety days, and the city solicitors, McQuarrie, Martin, Cassidy & McGowan, are now advised that such an appeal will be taken.

The only effect of this change in plans will probably be to delay final decision. As the matter now stands, the appeal will come up in Victoria in January, and will therefore probably not be in time for the February sitting of the supreme court at Ottawa, but will have to wait for the May sitting. Another effect will be to add to the costs which will eventually be paid by the loser.

SHORT CHANGE ARTIST GETS TWO YEARS

Chas. Woodcock, Alias Brown, Has Bad Criminal Record

Charles Woodcock, short change artist with a long criminal record, was this morning sentenced to two years' hard labor by Magistrate Jay in the city police court. Before receiving sentence his record was turned up and admitted. It was shown that he had been convicted many times, particularly at Vancouver and Calgary, that he had perjured himself before the United States immigration officers, that he had worked under several other names, and that he had tried to get away to the States directly after the offence for which he was convicted.

Miss Blanche Irene Acton, who was employed in Acton Brothers' grocery store, told of the man coming and asking for a packet of tobacco and changing a ten-dollar bill. On receiving the change he said that he had now found the ten cents and would like a five dollar bill for the small change. When that was brought he asked that it be changed back to ten dollars, and in the final settlement the young lady found that she was short five dollars.

Miss Hilda Constance Brindley, cashier at the same store, confirmed the evidence of the former witness and told of being five dollars short in the cash. She missed the money immediately as she had just put most of it in the safe.

Charles Woodcock in his own defence related what had occurred and claimed that the lady had never given him the five dollars which was missing. He admitted having gone under other names and of having sworn that he had been working in "Nashville" when as a matter of fact he had never been to that city. He had lived three years in the United States but he was not a citizen of that country. On his arrival in the city he had \$70 in his pocket, which he claimed he had got from his mother in San Diego. It had been sent him in an unregistered letter. He admitted his record, which was produced by the police department.

R. C. Lowe, on behalf of the prisoner, asked for a dismissal on the ground that the evidence was not very clear. The prisoner he thought should have the benefit of the doubt.

Magistrate Jay suggested that there could be no doubt in the face of the evidence. The five dollars was gone and he was convinced that the accused took it. He had taken advantage of the lady's inexperience. The sentence was two years at hard labor.

Demand Phoenix Stout. Home product.

Washclean

Washes far better than you can without injury. Soiled Linen, Curtains, Baby Clothes, most delicate fabrics
—OF ALL GROCERS

Hurrah!

Here's relief from thirst; here's fresh vigor for the boys at the Front and workers at home!

WRIGLEY'S

Soothes, refreshes, sustains through weary hours of suspense and struggle!

It helps appetite and digestion too. Delicious and antiseptic—wholesome and beneficial.

After every meal and in the long watch, this lasting refreshment cheers thousands every day. A boon to smokers. Send some packets or a box to your soldier lad.

IT'S ON SALE EVERYWHERE.

The Flavor Lasts!

WM. WRIGLEY JR. CO., Ltd.
Wrigley Bldg., Toronto



CANADA



NATIONAL SERVICE

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given under the authority of the "War Measures Act, 1914," that during the first week in January, 1917, an inventory will be made by the Post Office Authorities, of every male between the ages of sixteen and sixty-five, residing in Canada.

National Service Cards and addressed envelopes for their return to Ottawa have been placed in the hands of all Postmasters for distribution amongst the persons required to fill in such cards. Every male person of the prescribed ages is required to fill in and return a card enclosed in an envelope within ten days of its receipt.

Any person who fails to receive a card and envelope may obtain the same upon application to the nearest Postmaster.

R. B. BENNETT,
Ottawa, 15th December, 1916. Director General.

GOD SAVE THE KING.

NATIONAL SERVICE WEEK : 1st to 7th JANUARY.

Remember the Boys in the Trench
YOU Can Help by Contributing to
the United Service Tobacco Fund.

OFFICE
727
Fort St.

Now Is the Time to Buy

When the war ends you will not be able to buy land of this nature so cheaply.

HERE IS AN EXCEPTIONAL BARGAIN

20.42 ACRES

Choice waterfront property. Good drainage. Excellent soil. Partly cleared. Over 500 feet sea front. Close to school and church.

PARRY BAY, METCHOSIN

Several hundred cords of wood can be cut and sawed to Victoria. Valuable deposit of moulding sand of the finest quality on the waterfront. Several hundred tons have been shipped, worth \$10 per ton.

We are offering this for a few days at

Only \$150.00 Per Acre

If you want it—HURRY.

Swinerton & Musgrave

Winch Bldg., 600 Port St.

GOVERNMENT ORDER HITS SKIPPER HARD

Capt. E. W. Knight, Barred From British Ships Because of German Ancestry

Under the sweeping instructions issued by the British government several months ago, Capt. E. W. Knight, for 22 years a master mariner in the British merchant service, now finds his license of practically no value, for during the continuance of the war he will be unable to sail as an officer on vessels flying the British flag.

Capt. Knight, who arrived on the liner Yokohama Maru from the Orient, holds a certificate of competency as master in the British merchant service, an order the past 17 years has been in the Asiatic coastwise service, sailing for Jardine, Matheson & Co., out of Shanghai. On account of the precaution exercised against any possible enemy agent the British authorities recently issued an order to shipping owners that no one of German descent could be employed in any vessel flying under the British flag.

Capt. Knight's father was of German birth, although he lived the greater part of his life in England. For this reason, upon receipt of the order, Capt. Knight found himself out of a position he had filled for many years and has been compelled to seek new fields.

Capt. Knight was born in England and is a British subject, and he feels his position very keenly. He has been granted a year's leave of absence by his former employers.

STOPPED BY GERMAN SUBMARINES.

Madrid, Dec. 27.—Four Greek steamships, the Omires, Aristides, Isaropina and Contandaris, have arrived at Las Palmas, Canary Islands, two of them bound from America with cargoes of wheat and corn, after having been stopped by a German submarine. They were permitted to leave Las Palmas only on condition that they should discharge their cargoes at that port.

DESSERTERS ROUNDED UP.

Steps taken to locate deserters from naval vessels in Esquimalt harbor resulted yesterday in the arrest of four men by the naval authorities. One of the men had enlisted with the 172nd Battalion, Vancouver, and the other three with the 143rd Battalion, B. C. Bantams, Victoria. The deserters were imbued with a desire to get back into the fighting line and took French leave.

NEUTRAL VESSELS SUNK.

London, Dec. 27.—Lloyds reports the sinking of the Norwegian steamship Sno, 1,822 tons gross, and the Danish barque Josan has been sunk.

JAPANESE FREIGHTER MAKING LONG PASSAGE

Shimbu Maru, in O. S. K. Service, is 23 Days Out From Yokohama

The long passage of the Japanese steamer Shimbu Maru is causing considerable comment in local shipping circles. The steamer, which is crossing the Pacific in the service of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, is 23 days out from Yokohama to-day, having sailed from the Japan coast on December 4.

She was looked for at this port on Saturday last and up to a late hour to-day had not been reported passing in at the Cape. As the days drag on with no sign of the vessel the fear is expressed that some mishap may have overtaken her, but no anxiety is felt for her safety. She is a tramp steamer and under favorable conditions would take from 18 to 20 days to cross the Pacific.

Heavy westerly gales have been prevalent on the Pacific during the past few weeks, a large number of vessels having been seriously delayed eastward. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha liners Shizuka Maru and Inaba Maru were 19 and 20 days respectively on the trip from Victoria to Yokohama, and the great C. P. R. liner Empress of Russia, a 20-knot greyhound, was delayed three days in reaching the Japan coast.

The Shimbu Maru, however, unless she puts in an appearance within the next 48 hours, will be a candidate for the missing list. She carries no wireless and has not been reported by passing vessels. The Shimbu has about 200 tons of Oriental cargo for Victoria.

R. P. Rithet & Co., local agents for the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, received a wireless from the inbound liner Tacoma Maru this morning advising them that she would reach William Head on Sunday morning. She has 130 tons of cargo and 134 sacks of mail for this port.

The Tacoma Maru is making her last voyage in the O. S. K. service to this coast. The Panama Maru recently arrived here and it is expected that this vessel will be substituted for her.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE

Seattle, Dec. 26.—Arrived: Str Hanna Nielsen from Tacoma; str Morning Star from Vancouver, B. C. Sailed: Str Queen for Vancouver, B. C.; str Caracac, President and Ravalli for Tacoma; tug Kingfisher for Anxoy, B. C.; Ketchikan, Dec. 26.—Sailed: Str Humboldt, Spokane; str City of Seattle, Seattle.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 26.—Arrived: Str Wilmington, Mukilteo; barge Charles Nelson, Tacoma; str Admiral Goodrich, Nanaimo, B. C. Sailed: Str Northern Pacific, Astoria; Admiral Schley, Seattle; U.S.S. Frederick Bremerton.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 26.—Arrived: Str Daisy Mathews, San Francisco; Tacoma Wash, Dec. 26.—Sailed: Str Tacoma, west coast; Hanna Nielsen, Seattle. Arrived: Str Caracac, Ravalli and President, Seattle.

ASHORE NEAR CHEFOO

Efforts to float Japanese Steamer Sankaku Maru Prove Futile.

Tokio, Dec. 27.—The Japanese steamship Sankaku Maru, with 400 persons on board, has gone ashore off Chefoo, China, says a dispatch received here to-day.

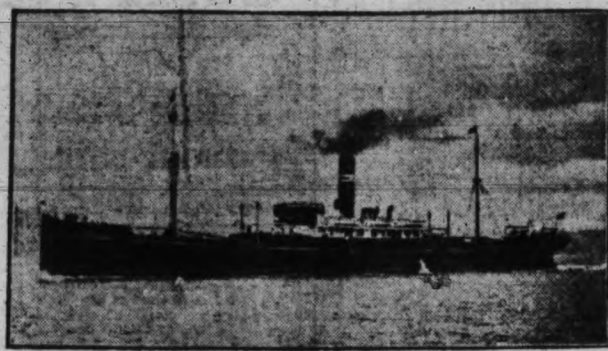
Among the passengers on the Sankaku Maru are two Americans.

Efforts to float the vessel have been futile.

TAKING WATER FAST.

The five-masted schooner Crescent, which sailed from Puget Sound for Sydney last Sunday, and which was subsequently picked up in a leaking condition by the tug Walrus and towed to Port Angeles, is reported to be making seven inches of water an hour. A survey is being made to-day to ascertain the cause of the leakage.

Reports Arrival on Sunday



O. S. K. LINER TACOMA MARU

NORWAY IS BUILDING

UP MERCHANT MARINE

Aggregate Tonnage Under Norwegian Flag Greater Than Before War, Despite Losses

Norwegian enterprise in connection with the shipping industry is forcibly indicated in the sale a short time ago of the seven American-Hawaiian steamers to Norse interests.

The losses to Norway's merchant marine arising from the war are greater than those experienced by any other neutral and stand second to those only of Great Britain and France.

Comparatively recent figures indicate, however, that in spite of the destruction of some 200,000 gross tons of Norwegian shipping, the aggregate tonnage now under the flag of Norway is greater than was the case before the outbreak of war.

One of the features of Norway's gain in tonnage is the fact that practically all additions to her merchant marine have been new ships, replacing old tonnage.

Norway is driving her own shipyards to the limit and having taken up all spare capacity in the yards of neutral Europe, has ordered numerous vessels to be built on the Pacific coast of Canada and the United States. How many can be determined by the capacity of the shipbuilding plants on this coast. Victoria, as well as other ports is likely to greatly benefit by this great demand for steel tonnage.

It is no secret that representatives of Norwegian interests have been negotiating with local shipbuilding plants with a view to placing orders here, and the New Year will doubtless see contracts placed.

Victoria has all the natural advantages necessary for the creation of a shipbuilding centre, and, moreover, she has the facilities on the ground to go right ahead with any contracts that may be placed.

The present indications are that Norway will be the moving spirit in the primary development of the shipbuilding industry at this port.

REGISTERED AT SARNIA

Tanker Imperial Was Formerly Oil Carrier on Great Lakes.

After discharging part of her cargo at the Imperial Oil Company's plant at Iqoy, the tanker steamer Imperial will steam north to Prince Rupert with distillate and gasoline. The tanker was built at Grandmouthe three years ago for service on the Great Lakes and is registered at Sarnia. Her master and crew were shipped under Canadian regulations and she flies the Canadian ensign. The Imperial left the lakes for Mexico, passed through the Panama canal, and went south to Talara, Peru. Her hull has only been painted twice in three years as the composition to prevent the growth of salt water is not needed in fresh water. The result is that the Imperial has accumulated a considerable quantity of barnacles and other marine growth on the long passage from Peru. Fresh provisions ran out and for a week all hands existed on canned goods and salt horse.

DETAIN GREEK STEAMER.

New York, Dec. 27.—The Greek line steamer Patria, with six hundred passengers on board from Piraeus for New York, is detained by the British at Gibraltar, it was learned from N. A. Galano, the local agent of the line. "We have been officially informed by the British government that the entire allies have declared a blockade against Greek shipping," said Mr. Galano. "The Patria, we presume, will be detained until the blockade is lifted."

OTTER WAS DELAYED.

In the southeast blow this morning the little C. P. R. steamer Otter found the wind too strong to proceed. She put back to port and when the weather moderated left again at noon for the Gulf Islands.

TIDE TABLE.

December, 1917.

Date	Time	High	Time	Low	Time	High	Time	Low
1	10:37	9.1	10:50	2.6	11:03	9.3	11:16	2.8
2	10:38	9.2	10:51	2.7	11:04	9.4	11:17	2.9
3	10:39	9.3	10:52	2.8	11:05	9.5	11:18	3.0
4	10:40	9.4	10:53	2.9	11:06	9.6	11:19	3.1
5	10:41	9.5	10:54	3.0	11:07	9.7	11:20	3.2
6	10:42	9.6	10:55	3.1	11:08	9.8	11:21	3.3
7	10:43	9.7	10:56	3.2	11:09	9.9	11:22	3.4
8	10:44	9.8	10:57	3.3	11:10	10.0	11:23	3.5
9	10:45	9.9	10:58	3.4	11:11	10.1	11:24	3.6
10	10:46	10.0	10:59	3.5	11:12	10.2	11:25	3.7
11	10:47	10.1	11:00	3.6	11:13	10.3	11:26	3.8
12	10:48	10.2	11:01	3.7	11:14	10.4	11:27	3.9
13	10:49	10.3	11:02	3.8	11:15	10.5	11:28	4.0
14	10:50	10.4	11:03	3.9	11:16	10.6	11:29	4.1
15	10:51	10.5	11:04	4.0	11:17	10.7	11:30	4.2
16	10:52	10.6	11:05	4.1	11:18	10.8	11:31	4.3
17	10:53	10.7	11:06	4.2	11:19	10.9	11:32	4.4
18	10:54	10.8	11:07	4.3	11:20	11.0	11:33	4.5
19	10:55	10.9	11:08	4.4	11:21	11.1	11:34	4.6
20	10:56	11.0	11:09	4.5	11:22	11.2	11:35	4.7
21	10:57	11.1	11:10	4.6	11:23	11.3	11:36	4.8
22	10:58	11.2	11:11	4.7	11:24	11.4	11:37	4.9
23	10:59	11.3	11:12	4.8	11:25	11.5	11:38	5.0
24	11:00	11.4	11:13	4.9	11:26	11.6	11:39	5.1
25	11:01	11.5	11:14	5.0	11:27	11.7	11:40	5.2
26	11:02	11.6	11:15	5.1	11:28	11.8	11:41	5.3
27	11:03	11.7	11:16	5.2	11:29	11.9	11:42	5.4
28	11:04	11.8	11:17	5.3	11:30	12.0	11:43	5.5
29	11:05	11.9	11:18	5.4	11:31	12.1	11:44	5.6
30	11:06	12.0	11:19	5.5	11:32	12.2	11:45	5.7
31	11:07	12.1	11:20	5.6	11:33	12.3	11:46	5.8

The time used is Pacific standard, for the 190th Meridian west. It is counted from 0 to 24 hours, from midnight to midnight. The figures for height serve to distinguish high water from low water, where blanks occur in the tables, the tide falls or falls continuously during two successive tidal periods without turning.

TEUTONS HELD UP

FORMER GERMAN SHIP

Steamer Sacramento, Formerly Alexandria, Was Overhauled by Submarine.

Hayre, Dec. 27.—Captain Plater, of the American steamship Sacramento, who arrived here from Buenos Ayres with a cargo of wheat, reports that he was stopped in the English Channel by a German submarine. The commander of the submarine ordered him on board with his papers and after examination said: "You are carrying wheat, which we consider contraband of war, to France. It is lucky for you that your ship is American, otherwise we should have torpedoed you with great pleasure. You may proceed. Good luck to you."

The only steamship of the name of Sacramento listed in available marine records is reported by the New York maritime register to have been recently transferred from American to British ownership. She was blacklisted by the British admiralty in April, 1916, on charges of aiding German ships in the Pacific, but was removed from the blacklist last October.

San Francisco, Dec. 27.—The steamer Sacramento, reported to have been held up by a German submarine in the English Channel, was formerly the German merchantman Alexandria, of the Kosmos line. It was changed to American registry after the European war broke out and later took part in alleged unneutral attempts to provision German warships in the Pacific before the destruction of German cruisers in a battle with the British off the Falkland Islands. E. H. von Schack, German vice-consul here; Henry Kaufmann, chancellor of the consulate; Maurice Kirk, consul for Turkey, and a score of other individuals and firms are now waiting trial in the U. S. district court for an alleged connection with the activities of the Sacramento and other vessels in alleged provisioning of German warships.

The Sacramento was owned by the Northern and Southern S. S. company when it arrived at Valparaiso, Chile, in 1915, as empty as a drum after leaving San Francisco loaded with provisions. Captain T. A. Anderson said German warships held him up and took his cargo. He was among those indicted, as was Philip Thayer, president of the Northern and Southern S. S. company.

The Sacramento was reported sold last September to the Hudson's Bay company.

WAS IN DISTRESS

Barge Charles Nelson Picked Up by Mukilteo Off California Coast.

After being adrift off the California coast the barge Charles Nelson, lumber laden, was picked up by the steam schooner Mukilteo and taken in tow for San Francisco, where she arrived yesterday. The Charles Nelson's crew of nine men were rescued by the Mukilteo when the barge became unmanageable off the Humboldt County coast. The barge was formerly the steam schooner Charles Nelson, which at one time was operated regularly in the lumber trade between Puget Sound and San Francisco.

CREW OF MANY

DIALECTS LANDED

Negroes-Who Mutinied Aboard Gozan Maru Are Put Ashore at San Francisco

San Francisco, Dec. 27.—Five British accents, the Cornwell, Cockney, Derbyshire, Liverpool and Tyneside arrived in San Francisco on the Matsun Navigation company's flagship, Matsun, and mingled with the lines of the many nationalities on the waterfront. The accents did not come with the arrival of a party of dukes or lords but fell from the lips of fifteen of the blackest negroes who ever handled a ship's line. They were the Jamaica crew of the Japanese steamship Gozan Maru, which sailed from Balboa for Japan, reached Honolulu and there the crew quit after much turmoil.

It was funny enough to hear the stories related in chorus by the negroes in their different English dialects. The Cockney was foremost and acted as spokesman with interpolations from Cornwall and the other counties.

According to their story they signed on in Balboa as able seamen at a wage of "seven pun" a month (that is \$35). One day out they found the ship was "hungry." Capt. George McKinnon, they alleged, was brutal in his treatment of them.

So, when they arrived at Honolulu, they went in a body to the British consul. He gave them no satisfaction, they said, so they went to the American shipping commissioner, who took the matter up.

The United States authorities took the stand that, as they had signed on in the canal zone they were to be given American protection. Two lawyers were hired and took their cases into court.

Coming to the fifteen as wages was \$1,100. The lawyers won the case even to obtaining the \$70,000 bond that was asked for. The lawyers took \$500 of the \$1,100 and the remaining \$600 was distributed evenly among the fifteen negroes.

Arrangements were made to send them back in the steerage of the Matsun and, after a day stay at Angel Island, they will be sent on their way to Balboa.

WIRELESS REPORTS

December 27, 8 a. m.

Point Grey—Snow; calm; 29.82; 27; thick.

Cape Lazo—Snow; S. W.; fresh; 29.88; 32; thick seaward.

Pachena—Snow; S. E.; 29.90; 32; light swell.

Estevan—Rain; S. E.; light; 29.40; 33; sea moderate.

Alert Bay—Gloomy; N.; 29.40; 23; sea moderate.

Triangle—Snow; moderate gale; 29.58; 32; sea moderate.

Dead Tree Point—Rain; S. E.; strong; 29.65; 33; sea rough.

Kodak Bay—Rain; S. E.; strong gale; 29.30; 36; sea rough.

Prince Rupert—Clear; calm; 29.60; 26; sea smooth. Passed out, str Che; 10:10, 10 p. m., southbound.

Noon.

Point Grey—Snow; calm; 29.84; 33; thick.

Cape Lazo—Snow; calm; 29.82; 32; thick seaward.

Pachena—Cloudy; S. E.; 29.60; 36; light swell.

Estevan—Overcast; S. E.; light; 29.40; 36; light swell.

Alert Bay—Overcast; N. W.; 29.50; 30; sea smooth.

Triangle—Cloudy; E. strong; 29.72; 36; sea rough. Spoke str Humboldt, 10:15 a. m., off Bella Bella, southbound; spoke str Chelohsin, 12:15 p. m., Millbank Sound, southbound.

Dead Tree Point—Overcast; S. E.; light; 29.98; 34; light swell.

Kodak Bay—Overcast; S. E.; strong; 29.39; 36; sea rough.

Prince Rupert—Clear; calm; 29.70; 30; sea smooth. Passed in, str Prince George, 10:30 a. m., northbound.

ASIA OUT TO-MORROW

C. P. O. S. Liner Posted to Steam for Ports in the Far East.

The C. P. O. S. liner Empress of Asia, Capt. W. Davidson, R. N. R., is due to leave port to-morrow evening on her outward trip to the Far East. Unless the present arrangements are cancelled the liner will get away from Vancouver at noon and will berth here about 6 p. m. on her way out to sea. The Asia is taking out a large list of saloon passengers and a capacity cargo.

The sister liner Empress of Russia is scheduled to leave Hongkong to-day on her return trip to this port, but in view of the fact that she was three days behind time in making Yokohama, it is probable that she will be delayed in clearing from the China station.

HUMBOLDT FOR SOUTH.

The steamer Humboldt, of the Humboldt Steamship Company, which last week rescued four members of the survey boat Stadia's complement from Storm Island, on the completion of her present southbound trip from Alaska, will make a trip from Seattle to San Francisco. While in the south she will be overhauled. On Feb. 1 the Humboldt will return to the Alaska trade.

LUMBER FOR INDIA.

The Rat Portage Company, of Vancouver, has been awarded a contract to supply 1,500,000 feet of lumber for delivery at Bombay, India. The cargo is for March loading and is being handled through the Canadian Trading Company.

NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAYS

Reduced Rates Victoria to Vancouver and Return... **\$2.70**

Tickets on sale Dec. 30, 31 and Jan. 1, 1917. Final return limit, Jan. 4, 1917.

Steamers leave Victoria daily at 2 p. m. and 11:45 p. m. Returning, leave Vancouver at 10:30 p. m. and 11:45 p. m.

For reservations and further information—

Canadian Pacific Railway

Phone 174 1102 Government Street Agent for all Atlantic Steamship Lines.

Canadian Northern Railway

TRANSCONTINENTAL LEAVES VANCOUVER

9:00 A. M. SUNDAY WEDNESDAY FRIDAY, 9:00 A. M.

SCENIC ROUTE BETWEEN VANCOUVER AND TORONTO. SHORT LINE TO EDMONTON AND PRAIRIE PORTS. NEW AND MODERN EQUIPMENT. ELECTRIC LIGHTED STANDARD AND TOURIST SLEEPING, DINING AND COMPARTMENT OBSERVATION CARS.

DAILY LOCAL SERVICE

1:30 p. m. Leave VANCOUVER. Arrive a. m. 11:30

2:30 p. m. Arrive VANCOUVER. Leave a. m. 1:15

1:30 p. m. Arrive VANCOUVER. Leave a. m. 1:15

Full particulars may be obtained from any Canadian Northern Agent.

The Number of Beans

in the Motor Car Contest is

3173

Winner will be announced in due time.

McCONNELL'S LTD.

SPORTING NEWS

WASHINGTON TEAMS WIN HOCKEY GAMES

Vancouver and Portland Are Defeated by Seattle and Spokane

Seattle, Wash., Dec. 27.—Superb team work and some of the fastest skating and checking seen in the arena here this season enabled the Seattle hockey team to walk off with the game with Vancouver last night by a score of 7 goals to 2. The victory for the Metropolitans gives them equal ranking with Vancouver at the top of the league column, and tightens up a race that promises to become the most thrilling in the history of Pacific coast hockey.

Weakened by the absence of Cyclone Taylor, the Millionaires fought hard for victory, but could not stop the bewildering attack of the Met. Muldoon's men were on the offensive most of the game, and except in the last period kept the puck in Vancouver territory a greater part of the time.

Summary: First period—1, Vancouver, Roberts, from Patrick, 3:34; 2, Seattle, Rowe, unassisted, 1:01; 3, Seattle, Foyston, from Morris, 3:15; 4, Seattle, Foyston, from Morris, 6:24.

Second period—5, Seattle, Foyston, from Morris, 3:0; 6, Seattle, Morris, from Wilson, 5:12; 7, Seattle, Foyston, unassisted, 6:13; 8, Vancouver, Patrick, from Stanley, 2:00.

Third period—9, Seattle, Foyston, 6:33.

Spokane Defeats Portland.
Spokane, Wash., Dec. 27.—Portland was no match for Spokane last night and the locals defeated the visiting hockey players six goals to two. Spokane jumped into the lead with three goals in the first period, and this margin never was endangered. Kerr, Spokane's left wing, starred on the offensive, scoring two goals himself, and receiving credit for assists on three others. The playing of Fowler, Spokane's goalkeeper, also was excellent. Summary: First period—Spokane, McDonald, from Kerr, 3:37; Nichols, from McDonald, 10:27; Kerr, from Nichols, 16:47.

Second period—Spokane, Genge, from Kerr, 14:55; Portland, Harris, from Baibour, 17:07.

Third period—Spokane, Cook, from Kerr, 6:03; Kerr, 15:13; Portland, Harris, from Loughlin, 15:42.

Penalties: First period—Dunderdale, 3 mins.; Loughlin, 3 mins.; Genge, 3 mins. Second period—Mallen, 3 mins.; Loughlin, 3 mins.; Tobin, 3 mins.; Patrick, 3 mins. Third period—Lloyd Cook, 3 mins.

Subs: First period—Tobin for Marples, Mallen for Patrick, Leo Cook for Nichols. Second period—Patrick for Leo Cook, Nichols for Mallen, Marples for Loughlin. Third period—Leo Cook for McDonald, Mallen for Patrick.

We Trust You Had a Merry Christmas

But what about your empty beer, whisky and wine

BOTTLES

Call up the two Returned Soldiers

144

We will collect and pay you the best prices.

C. H. HAYLE

1513 Blanshard

F. TOMLINSON

SOLDIERS INDULGE IN SPORT IN FAR EAST

Interesting Paper is Published by Canadians in Trenches at Salonica

The following extract from the "Convoy Call," a paper published by the New York Yankees can look back on the twenty-third year of his existence and on his second season in major league baseball with more than pardonable pride. It certainly was his year.

The football season is again with us and prospects are bright for a good winter's sport.

Already five games have been played and won, the opening game being against No. 1 Canadian Stationary, who were beaten by the only goal scored after a keen game.

The 25th Reserve Park were next disposed of by a score of 4 to 1, and following this the Third Base Horse Transport got on the wrong side of a 4 to 2 score.

The fourth, and possibly the best contested match, was against the Ordnance Shipping, a fine game ending in favor of No. 5 by 4 goals to nil—the score hardly doing justice to our opponents, who put up a very fine exhibition.

In the latest game, played a few days ago, our men again proved their superiority by winning over the Seaforth's by 8 to 1.

The players are gradually finding their form as the season proceeds and ought to be in good shape for the local " Derby" against No. 4 Canadian. The defence, which has always been the mainstay of the team, is as safe as ever. Goalkeeper is a reliable goalkeeper, besides doing a considerable amount of robbing for "Mushy." Len McKenzie is playing a great game at right back and with Big Bill Sedger (a tower of strength this combination is hard to beat).

Tommy Brown is at the height of his form and a great favorite with the crowd—and with Jack Watt and Baird on either side of him the halves are as sound as the most critical could desire.

Fred Hill is again at centre forward and it is quite unnecessary to enlarge on the form of this fine player. Scotty Clarke, Jeff Baker and Wale are all strong players and with Sgt. Thompson back again and such players as Corbie, McDonald, Scott and Jones to draw upon there is no reason why the forwards should not reach the high standard of the defence. Combination is the one thing needed.

The team is very proud of its unbeaten record. More than twenty games have been played since our arrival, and with the present lineup we can confidently look forward to another successful season.

ESQUIMALT GUN CLUB HELD GOOD SHOOT

Though cold, the weather was ideal for the annual turkey shoot held at the club's traps, Admirals' road, Esquimalt, on Sunday morning.

Over 1,500 targets were trapped and some fine shooting was witnessed, the light being very good, and as a result many "possibles" were registered. Messrs. Lohrbrunner, Weller, Sylvester, Peden and Fred Ricketts carried off the honors, and also many turkeys between them.

The large turkey kindly donated by Messrs. Kelly, Douglas & Co. caused much competition and was eventually won by "Maxie" with 19 "straights." Taken all around, the shoot provided good sport and went off very smoothly. Despite the absence of many familiar faces—for a large percentage of the gun club's members are doing their bit in France—the attendance was good. It was hoped to obtain a fairly large sum but the high price of turkeys proved a severe handicap. About \$20 will be available for patriotic purposes as a result of the morning's sport.

TENNIS ON SKATES IS SUCCESS IN NEW YORK

Ice tennis, that's the latest in sport. This form of competition was tried out for the first time in this country at the ice skating palace in New York recently, and was voted a success.

Two of the first ten ranking players were among the contestants. They were Watson M. Washburn and Dean Mathey. The other three who played were Frederick B. Alexander, who suggested the game; Theodore Roosevelt Pell and Francis T. Hunter. Washburn and Mathey played several sets of doubles against Alexander and Pell, and the honors were even, for no score was kept. The matches served to prove that ice tennis is not only feasible, but that it offers opportunity for an exciting winter pastime.

Skill in skating is, of course, a necessity, but it was evident that tennis skill of a high order could be developed in the ice game. The players served, drove and volleyed with much of the same dash and skill which they displayed on dirt or grass courts, the fact of being on skates hindering them only now and then.

The court on which the men played was marked out with painted black lines, and the regulation tennis ball was used. It was generally agreed that singles play was not feasible, but that doubles held many possibilities.

EX-GOLF CHAMPION DIES IN MEXICO

Mexico City, Dec. 27.—Willie Smith, golf professional at the Mexican Country Club and formerly national open golf champion of America, died here yesterday of pneumonia.

IS BEST RUN MAKER FOR 1916 SEASON

Walter Pipp, of New York Yankees, Has Fine Record for the Year

Walter C. Pipp, first baseman of the New York Yankees can look back on the twenty-third year of his existence and on his second season in major league baseball with more than pardonable pride. It certainly was his year.

He tied with Bobby Veach for the sacrifice fly honors of the American League, set the pace in striking blows good for the grand total, and forced his way into the Cobb-Crawford-Baker class by leading all others in batting in runs. The number of tallies which Waile, whose father once was tried out by "Pop" Anson, batted in was nine—nine, Derrill Pratt, of St. Louis, the runner-up, drove in ninety-two. In his preceding seasons Cobb was four times the leader in batting in runs, Crawford excelled three times and Baker excelled twice. Cobb holds the record for his own league (and for the major leagues) of the greatest number of runs batted in during one season—144 in 1911.

Seven Hard Hitters.
Seven American League players drove in seventy-five or more runs this past season, as against nine the preceding year. Nineteen-sixteen's slugging seven were Pipp, Pratt, of St. Louis; Veach and Helman, of Detroit; Speaker and Roth, of Cleveland; and Jackson, of Chicago. Four of them are left-handed batters and three right-handed.

The fifty-nine of 1915 were Crawford, Veach and Cobb, of the Tigers, the two Collinses, Fournier and Jackson, of the White Sox; Pratt, of the Browns; and Lewis, of the Red Sox. Veach, ranking third this year, was Detroit's best man at supplying motive power for the manufacture of runs; Speaker, ranking fourth, led for Cleveland; Jackson, ranking sixth, for Chicago; Smith, ranking eleventh, for Washington; Lewis, ranking thirteenth, for Boston; and McInnis, ranking seventeenth, for Philadelphia.

Repeaters among the team leaders were Lewis, Pratt and Pipp. The latter drove in fifty-eight runs in 1915 and so improved almost 100 per cent. Detroit, as usual, showed the way in batting in runs, the Tigers knocking 365 over the plate. The next most powerful a was possessed by the Cleveland Indians, who drove in 553. New York batters were third with 491, while the other totals were Chicago, 453; St. Louis, 471; Washington, 453; Boston, 443, and Philadelphia, 439.

George Burns, of Detroit, holds the year's greatest individual timely hitting record by knocking in six runs in a game played at the Polo grounds on July 15. He hit for the circuit with the bases full in the second inning, scored Cobb from third later on the clutch and finished up by scoring Bush from third on a sacrifice fly. Morridge and Caldwell pitched for the Yankees.

Seven players batted in five runs in a single game. Burns being one of the number and the first to turn the trick. This time he starred against the Red Sox in a game in which the title holders were beaten, 6 to 5. The date was June 3, and the Boston pitchers were Ruth and Mays. The last run Burns scored decided the game in Detroit's favor.

OLD COUNTRY SOCCER.

London, Dec. 27 (delayed).—Following are the results of football games played on Christmas Day in the London Combination on the grounds of the first named clubs:

Brentford, 1; Tottenham Hotspur, 5.
Chelsea, 1; West Ham United, 1.
Crystal Palace, 2; Southampton, 1.
Clapton Orient, 1; Portsmouth, 1.
Luton Town, 1; Fulham, 0.
Millwall Athletic, 3; Watford, 0.
Queen's Park Rangers, 2; Woolwich Arsenal, 2.



"DUBBIE" KERR

The left wing man of the Spokane hockey team, who starred in the offensive play of the club. He scored two of the goals notched for his team.



BOBBY ROWE

Of the Seattle "Metropolitans," who did some fine scoring, unassisted, in the hockey game against Vancouver last night.

WILLIAMS SUPREME IN TENNIS CIRCLES

Philadelphia Player Tops National Ranking List After Five Years' Striving

In the field of tennis this has been a noteworthy year, in which the victory of Richard Norris Williams, II., of Philadelphia, stands out as a clear beam of light. Competing in less tournaments than a year ago, he yet gained honors which he never won before and now he rests secure as leader of the first ten after vainly knocking at the door four previous years.

Williams' victory over Johnston in the national singles championship, the second which he scored over the titleholder of a year ago, was an impressive exhibition of the heights which championship tennis can attain. Stamina and skill were on the side of the Philadelphian, and more than all else stamina contributed to his triumph. In point of skill there was not much to choose, but Williams was able to last through five severe sets, while Johnston weakened near the end.

Bjursted a Star.
Among the women Miss Molla Bjursted still reigns supreme and her list of titles is so long as to bar mention. At any rate she was defeated only once during the season of scheduled events, an accomplishment which might be termed phenomenal. In the men's doubles the names of William M. Johnston and Clarence J. Griffen stand above all others, for they won the national championship, defending their title successfully against Maurice E. McLoughlin and Ward Dawson.

The season was not all serene. Surprises occurred on every hand and some of the most astonishing were credited to the little Japanese player, Ichihya Kumagae, who was placed fifth in the national ranking. His victory over Johnston at Newport was gained in a wonderful five-set match that was fought at greater length than the final in any other tournament. A finished base-line player, Kumagae forced Johnston, a forecourt player, to stand at the base line and sometimes behind it. It eventually came to be a struggle of endurance and in this Kumagae was superior and won.

Is McLoughlin Through.
The year probably sees the passing of Maurice E. McLoughlin as one of the contenders for the championship. The "Comet" is in the sporting goods business and if the United States National Lawn Tennis Association rules against a man engaged in this line McLoughlin will probably have hidden good-bye to amateur tennis. This question of amateurism has been one of the big issues throughout the season. The Pacific coast men have not attempted to disguise their antagonism to any rule which will bar McLoughlin and there are said to be many in the East who will support them. A split in the tennis association has even been predicted if the proposed amateur rule is made a law.

BOWLING NEWS.

The Cameron Lumber Company's team was defeated last night at the Arcade alley by the bowlers of the Silver Spring Brewery. The scores follow:

Silver Spring.
J. Wilson 158 131 102-431
J. Denoni 129 173 126-428
J. C. Thamer 97 96 115-308
N. Wenborn 124 123 145-392
A. Pastro 145 120 98-363
Total—1,322

Cameron Lumber Co.
Futtle 146 131 99-376
McCart 136 134 142-412
Cameras 120 103 106-329
McDonald 96 143 116-355
McMillan 124 137 158-419
Total—1,380 points.

Two matches will be played to-night, the first is between the Cameron Lumber Co. and the B. C. Telephone Co., and the second between the B. C. Electric and the Cameron Shipbuilders.

BEAUCHAMP WINS.
St. Louis, Dec. 27.—Ernest Beauchamp, of Winfield, knocked out Dan Wetchel, of New York, in the fifth round of a scheduled ten-round boxing contest here yesterday. The men are light heavyweights.

Demand Phoenix Beer. Home product.

ATHLETES PLAY BIG PART IN GREAT WAR

Vancouver Rowing Club Has Made Fine Showing; Many Members Enlist

Just how active a part Canadian athletes are taking in the European struggle is shown by the Vancouver Rowing Club, an organization which has competed against the University of Washington on water and which has won Rugby football honors in the north many times. Every one of the members of the football team, with three exceptions, are, or were, "doing their bit" in the war.

Of the players some have paid the supreme sacrifice; others are missing, while more wear decorations for gallant work on the field.

The regulars of the Vancouver Rowing Club and football squad who are now in active service and who are well known in northwest and eastern sporting circles include the following: Lieut. T. E. D. Byrne, Fifth Royal Irish, recommended for decoration; Norman Sowers, lieutenant Third Canadian Pioneers, decorated with military cross, wounded three times; Dick Bennett, lieutenant in Canadian field artillery; George Chaffey, captain Third Canadian Pioneers, decorated with military cross, wounded; Owen Sowers, private in Tenth Battalion, believed killed; Calvin Davis, captain Sixteenth Battalion, wounded; Rex Gale, captain Seventy-fourth Battalion; Beech Gale, lieutenant Seventy-fourth Battalion; "Bimbo" Sweeney, captain Eleventh C. M. R.; J. A. McDonald, captain Canadian engineers, decorated with military cross; R. K. Johnston, captain Seventy-second battalion; Andrew Ross, sergeant Twenty-ninth Battalion, mentioned in dispatch as killed in action.

Substitutes—Dick Baker, Royal Flying corps; Tom Taylor, captain brigade machine gun officer, Twenty-ninth Battalion, mentioned in dispatches; Ken Taylor, major, bombing brigade officer, D. S. O., M. C., killed in action; Bob Matthews, sergeant Twenty-ninth Battalion; Mickey Bell Irving, main flight commander, Royal Flying Corps, D. S. O., M. C., mentioned in dispatches many times.

STUTZ PILOT WINS 50-MILE MATCH RUN

Los Angeles, Dec. 27.—Earl Cooper won the 50-mile match race at the Ascot speedway here Monday, covering the distance in 44:11, an average of 67.13 miles an hour. Eddie Pullen finished one second behind Cooper.

Wilbur D'Alene, the only other entrant, lost control of his car while passing the grandstand in the second lap, and crashed through a fence, overturning his car. He was taken to the California hospital.

D'Alene was reported to-day to be out of danger. Nurses at the hospital stated he probably had one or two ribs broken, but nothing definite would be known until an X-ray photograph was taken.

YESTERDAY'S ENGLISH FOOTBALL RESULTS

London, Dec. 27.—Following are the results of league football games played yesterday on the grounds of the first named clubs:

Blackburn Rovers, 2; Preston North End, 1.
Burnley, 4; Blackpool, 0.
Manchester City, 1; Stoke, 0.
Nottingham, 2; Tottenham, 1.
Leeds, 0; Butler, 0.
Bradford, 0; Rochdale Hornets, 0.
Wakefield Trinity, 3; Dewsbury, 14.
Kingston Rovers, 6; Hull, 3.
Warrington, 6; Grimsby, 11.
Oldham, 3; Swinton, 0.
Wigan, 3; Barrow, 2.
Broughton Rangers, 3; Salford, 2.
St. Helens Recreation, 1; St. Helens, 0.
York-Hunslet and Huddersfield-Halifax games have been abandoned.

Corporation of the District of Saanich.

REFERENDUM

Notice is hereby given to the Electors of the Municipality of Saanich that a vote will be taken on Saturday, January 13th, 1917, on the question: "ON WHICH DAY ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF A HALF HOLIDAY?" The poll will be open from 9 a. m. to 7 p. m. on the 13th day of January, at the following places: For the First Ward, at Cedar Hill School House, Cedar Hill Cross Road; for the Second Ward, at Tolmie School House, Boleskine Road; for the Third Ward, at the Hall, Tyndall Avenue, Gordon Head; for the Fourth Ward, at McKensie Avenue School, corner McKensie Avenue, Carey Road and Raymond Street; for the Fifth Ward, at Royal Oak School, near the junction of the East and West Saanich Roads; for the Sixth Ward, at the Temperance Hall, East Saanich Road; for the Seventh Ward, at the Store, corner of Tillamook Road and Obed Avenue; and such polling places will be open from 9 o'clock a. m. to 7 p. m., of which every person is hereby required to take notice and govern himself accordingly.

The Form of Ballot will be as follows:

On which day are you in favor of a Half Holiday? Mark X opposite the day you are in favor of.

Wednesday	
Saturday	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Voter must mark Ballot for ONE Day Only.

Given under my hand at Royal Oak, B. C., this 21st day of December, 1916.
R. R. F. SEWELL,
Returning Officer.

Corporation of the District of Saanich ELECTION OF

SCHOOL TRUSTEES

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the Electors of the Municipality of Saanich, that I require the presence of said electors at the Council Chamber, Municipal Hall, Royal Oak, B. C., on Monday, the 8th day of January, 1917, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of electing (1) persons as members of the Board of School Trustees.

The mode of nomination of candidates shall be as follows: The candidates shall be nominated in writing; the writing shall be subscribed by two voters of the Municipality as proposer and second, and shall be delivered to the Returning Officer at any time between the date of the notice and 2 p. m. of the day of the nomination, and in the event of a poll being necessary, such poll will be opened on the 13th day of January, 1917, at the following places: For the First Ward, at Cedar Hill School House, Cedar Hill Cross Road; for the Second Ward, at Tolmie School House, Boleskine Road; for the Third Ward, at the Hall, Tyndall Avenue, Gordon Head; for the Fourth Ward, at McKensie Avenue School, corner McKensie Avenue, Carey Road and Raymond Street; for the Fifth Ward, at Royal Oak School, near the junction of the East and West Saanich Roads; for the Sixth Ward, at the Temperance Hall, East Saanich Road; for the Seventh Ward, at the Store, corner of Tillamook Road and Obed Avenue; and such polling places will be open from 9 o'clock a. m. to 7 p. m., of which every person is hereby required to take notice and govern himself accordingly.

The qualifications for a School Trustee shall be any person being a British subject of the full age of twenty-one years actually residing within the district, and having been for the three months next preceding the day of his or her nomination the registered owner, in the Land Registry Office, of land or real property situate within the Municipality of the assessed value, on the last Municipal or Provincial Assessment Roll, of two hundred and fifty dollars or more over and above any registered judgment or charge, or being a homestead, lessee from the Crown, or pre-emptor who has resided within the Municipality for the space of one year immediately preceding the day of nomination, and is assessed for five hundred dollars or more on the last Municipal or Provincial Assessment Roll over and above any registered judgment or charge, or being a homestead, lessee from the Crown, or pre-emptor who has resided within the Municipality for the space of one year immediately preceding the day of nomination, and is assessed for five hundred dollars or more on the last Municipal or Provincial Assessment Roll over and above any registered judgment or charge; and being otherwise qualified by this Act to vote at an election of school trustees in the said school district, shall be eligible to be elected or to serve as a school trustee in such district municipality school district.

Given under my hand at Royal Oak, British Columbia, this 21st day of December, 1916.
R. R. F. SEWELL,
Returning Officer.

SAANICH MUNICIPAL

ELECTIONS

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given to the Electors of the Municipality of Saanich, that I require the presence of said electors at the Council Chamber, Municipal Hall, Royal Oak, B. C., on Monday, the 8th day of January, 1917, at 12 o'clock, noon, for the purpose of electing persons to represent them in the Municipal Council as Reeve and Councillors.

The mode of nomination of candidates shall be as follows: The candidates shall be nominated in writing; the writing shall be subscribed by two voters of the Municipality as proposer and second, and shall be delivered to the Returning Officer at any time between the date of the notice and 2 p. m. of the day of the nomination, and shall state the names, residence and occupation or description of each person proposed. In such return as sufficiently to identify such candidate, and in the event of a poll being necessary, such poll will be opened on the 13th day of January, 1917, at the following places: For the First Ward, at Cedar Hill School House, Cedar Hill Cross Road; for the Second Ward, at Tolmie School House, Boleskine Road; for the Third Ward, at the Hall, Tyndall Avenue, Gordon Head; for the Fourth Ward, at McKensie Avenue School, corner McKensie Avenue, Carey Road and Raymond Street; for the Fifth Ward, at Royal Oak School, near the junction of the East and West Saanich Roads; for the Sixth Ward, at the Temperance Hall, East Saanich Road; for the Seventh Ward, at the Store, corner of Tillamook Road and Obed Avenue; and such polling places will be open from 9 o'clock a. m. to 7 p. m., of which every person is hereby required to take notice and govern himself accordingly.

The qualification for Reeve shall be his being a male British subject and having been for the three months next preceding the day of his nomination the registered owner, in the Land Registry Office, of land or real property situate within the Municipality of the assessed value, on the last Municipal or Provincial Assessment Roll, of five hundred dollars or more over and above any registered judgment or charge, or being a homestead, lessee from the Crown, or pre-emptor who has resided within the Municipality for the space of one year immediately preceding the day of nomination, and is assessed for five hundred dollars or more on the last Municipal or Provincial Assessment Roll over and above any registered judgment or charge; and being otherwise qualified by this Act to vote at an election of school trustees in the said school district, shall be eligible to be elected or to serve as a school trustee in such district municipality school district.

The qualification for a Councillor shall be his being a male British subject and having been for the three months next preceding the day of his nomination the registered owner, in the Land Registry Office, of land or real property situate within the Municipality of the assessed value, on the last Municipal or Provincial Assessment Roll, of two hundred and fifty dollars or more over and above any registered judgment or charge, or being a homestead, lessee from the Crown, or pre-emptor who has resided within the Municipality for the space of one year immediately preceding the day of nomination, and is assessed for five hundred dollars or more on the last Municipal or Provincial Assessment Roll over and above any registered judgment or charge; and being otherwise qualified by this Act to vote at an election of school trustees in the said school district, shall be eligible to be elected or to serve as a school trustee in such district municipality school district.

Given under my hand at Royal Oak, British Columbia, this 21st day of December, 1916.
R. R. F. SEWELL,
Returning Officer.

We Deliver Immediately—Anywhere
Phone your order to 4253
THE HUDSON'S BAY CO
WINE DEPARTMENT
1112 Douglas St. Open till 10 p. m.

Where Do You Hang Your Hat?

Where Do You Place Your Umbrella?

An untidy display of wearing apparel sometimes reflect on an otherwise well appearing office or home.

Here's Your Opportunity in Hat and Umbrella Racks

With Umbrella Rack and Pan and in oak, \$6.00 and \$7.50

Macey

OFFICE EQUIPMENT CO.
LIMITED

617-View Street-619

Wide range up to \$14.00

\$4.50

Answers to Times Want Ads.

The following replies are waiting to be sent:

610, 625, 631, 662, 686, 698, 779, 812, 901, 907, 985, 1012, 1044, 1089, 1254, 1314.

TOO LATE TO CLASSIFY

DIGGONISMS—When the week inherits the earth we hope they will not make the rest of us get off. Diggon Printing Co., 706 Yates street. Some wonderful bargains in gift stationery this week. High-class goods.

CHUMS, T. N. Hibben & Co.

THE UMBRELLA SHOP has removed to 418 Douglas. Covering and repairs. Walter & Knapp. Phone 269.

PING PONG SETS, T. N. Hibben & Co. Why go home to eat when you can eat a nice, tasty lunch of four courses at the Vernon Cafe for \$2. Try it once and you will keep on trying it. Tables for lease.

FOR SALE—Good dry cordwood, 12 and 16 in. blocks, delivered, \$5.00. D. Lewis, 4071R.

MR. BRITLING SEES IT THROUGH, T. N. Hibben & Co.

THE GIRL PHILIPPA, by Robert W. Chambers, T. N. Hibben & Co.

WATERMAN and Swan fountain pens, T. N. Hibben & Co.

FILL LINE of Phillips' chocolates in boxes from 25c up, at Phillips', 1236 Government.

DO NOT SAY THAT I TOLD YOU, but Bill spends all he makes with his jitters in buying Hamsterley Farm caramels, cream taffies and goes without his mouth. I thought you ought to know. Ernest.

WHY IS IT so many people ask for Phillips' chocolates and candies? Because they are our own make and made fresh daily. Try them at Phillips', 1236 Government street.

WANTED—Lessons in French. Box 1194, Times.

WANTED—Set of carpenter's tools, in good condition. What offers for cash? Box 300, Times.

BOND, pianist and teacher of advanced technique. A few children accepted. Box 1067, Times.

LOST—Gold pendant and chain, Sunday night, near St. Andrew's church. Fairford district. Reward. Phone 3600R, or Box 1069, Times.

FOR SALE—The most up-to-date bungalow in the city, two blocks from Parliament Buildings, near Hill park and avenue. Apply People's Cash & Hardware, 611 Fort street, or Phone 2388.

LOST—At Maywood P. O. or on Douglas St. Cloverdale avenue, pocket book containing money. Return to 311 Cook St. Clarence street.

WANTED—Girl or woman, for light house work, family of three, must speak Spanish. Apply Box 634, Times.

WANTED—To rent, seven-room, modern house, with garage, near school and car. Box 1191, Times.

PER MONTH to good tenant, 6 roomed house on Grant street, near Belmont avenue. Apply People's Cash & Hardware, 611 Fort street, or Phone 2388.

LOST—At Maywood P. O. or on Douglas St. Cloverdale avenue, pocket book containing money. Return to 311 Cook St. Clarence street.

DAUGHTERS OF ENGLAND—Lodge Primrose is holding a Christmas party on Thursday, Dec. 28. Any member's child or any child of a member's lodge. "Young England" who has not received an invitation please phone 2946.

FAIRALL'S LTD., are noted for their "Palm Springs" glasses. Always ask for Fairall's. Phone 212.

FOR SALE—Cash register and fittings. Apply Manitoba Cigar Stand.

WE HAVE clear title, choice Victoria lots to trade for farm land. Kootenay preferred. "mich" electric cycle lamps. Dunford's, 311 Union Bank.

WE WANT a furnished house for a desirable tenant, immediate occupation, close in or near car. Dunford's, 311 Union Bank.

GET THAT BICYCLE for the youngster at Philley's and see how much real joy it will afford. Roller skates, 90c; go-cycles, \$1.25; microscope, \$7; magic lantern and slides, \$10; electric cycle lamps, \$2.75; solar lamps, \$4; oil lamps, \$1 and up; candle lamps, \$2.50 and up. Philley's Cycle Store, 611 View street.

WANTED—Respectable arm waiter. Vernon Cafe. 422 R.

WARD SEVEN, RAANICH—Public meeting to-night, Presbyterian Hall, Tillicum road, 8 o'clock. Municipal affairs reviewed. Candidates for councilors and reeve selected. Everybody welcome. 427.

EXCHANGE—Ford roadster, best condition, for 5-passenger. Box 1108, Times.

BORN

DUGGAN—To the wife of Mr. Allan Duggan, who is now in France, at 121 Flanagan street, on Sunday, Dec. 24, 1916, a daughter.

DIED

FORBES—On the 23rd inst., at his home, 2644 Work street, Andrew Fraser Forbes, born in Inverness, Scotland, on the 24th day of August, 1864. The deceased was the beloved husband of Mrs. Catherine J. Forbes and a resident of this city for the past 25 years. He was a member of Victoria Columbia Lodge, No. 1, A. F. & A. M., of which lodge he was a valued member and made many lasting friends. He leaves to mourn his loss, besides his widow, five children, Bessie, Gordon, Norman, Katherine and Tommy.

The remains will be removed on Thursday, the 28th inst., by the Sands Funeral Co. to the above residence, where the funeral services will take place at 2 o'clock, under the auspices of Victoria Columbia Lodge, No. 1, A. F. & A. M.

FIGURES ALLEGED TO BE INCORRECT

Health Department Inquiry Continues To-day; an Inspectorate at Loggerheads

At the health department inquiry, which resumed this morning, counsel for Inspector Lancaster charged Dr. G. A. B. Hall, medical health officer, with juggling with the figures, in order to substantiate the case he has lodged.

Dr. Hall denied the impeachment, saying he had used no figures which could not be substantiated. Mr. McDiarmid: "Well, look here. We know that at the private session, before we asked for a public investigation, the doctor put in a list of drugs, showing an item of about 444. Now it comes up at the public investigation and the figure is \$103. Am I not justified in using the language of juggling?"

Dr. Hall said additional accounts had been submitted, and the amount is now \$103. Mr. McDiarmid protested that the doctor was making an attempt to mislead the committee.

The chairman, Alderman Bell, took the opinion of the committee members, and decided not to press the investigation of figures at that stage.

Corporal Clarkson, recalled, produced a letter signed by Inspector Lancaster, which instructed him to come to the camping ground at Cordova Bay during business hours and bring out some provisions. To Dr. Hall he denied that anyone had attempted to guide the evidence he had to give to the committee.

F. A. McDiarmid, for Inspector Lancaster, said the evidence of the witness would be fairly contradicted.

The late assistant inspector, J. B. Howes, continued his evidence. During 1915 he found himself frequently in charge of the office owing to the absence of the chief inspector. He detailed experiences with regard to material for fumigating. He was asked with regard to the holiday arrangements of the staff, and the dates when they were away. The towels' question was entered into with witness. Most of his testimony was of a negative character.

A dispute arose between Dr. Hall and Mr. McDiarmid with regard to the production of books, stated to have been kept by witness.

Mr. McDiarmid insisted on the production of the diaries, etc., saying: "You conduct your case with innuendoes and insinuations, and half-truths. The department is under your control and yet you don't produce them."

The members of the committee intervened to state that the books would be required later.

The chairman particularly asked if there had been discussion between the chief inspector and witness as to what evidence should be given at the inquiry.

Witness: Not particularly.

The chairman, after asking him if it was not true that he had privately told some one that he would be glad to see a change in the chief inspectorship, a question to which he gave an affirmative answer, expressed the opinion that Howes appeared to have developed a change of attitude towards Lancaster in the meantime.

Mr. Howes replied that his negative evidence with regard to a number of matters which the doctor had asked was of a different character to something which had not yet been mentioned. (What that was he did not say.)

He remembered some cheese cloth being used to fix up a room in Lancaster's place at Cordova Bay. They had cheese cloth for cleaning the doctor's car kept at the office.

Witness corroborated the statement that Mr. Lancaster had suggested one of them should leave. It was at the time when retrenchment was in the air, and it was felt one of the inspectors must leave.

The chairman asked Mr. Howes if he had not been in consultation with Mr. McDiarmid at his office about the case?

Mr. McDiarmid: Surely to goodness you don't suggest that I would advise the man not to tell the truth!

It transpired, however, that witness had called on Mr. McDiarmid, but found that he was away, and did not go back.

The chairman commented on witness's varying memory. Some points in 1914 were clear, others were not.

James King, in charge of the Clover Point sewer tank, gave evidence as to the construction of the building there. It appeared that some articles had been stolen therefrom, but not city property.

Ex-Alderman George McCandless, former chairman of the health committee, remembered that at the inquiry of 1915 it was stated some articles had been given to Mr. King for the Clover Point tank. As far as he remembered, Mr. King had complained the articles mentioned had not reached him. He understood, as chairman of the committee, that diaries were not started in the office till the fall of 1915. He saw the doctor almost daily and received verbal reports, and occasionally saw Inspector Lancaster.

He remembered the inspector stating he was not well, and intended to take a holiday, during the summer of 1915. How often Lancaster was away he could not recollect.

Alderman Fullerton wanted to find out if it was possible to carry out the attempted theft of money by officials in the making of cans, as had been suggested by Contractor Market.

The mayor said it was absolutely necessary to have the evidence of the official who received the cans.

Mr. McDiarmid wanted the original documents produced.

The city assessor, who was at the time city purchasing agent, remembered the delivery of the cans. He explained how the inspection was conducted, and the checks taken to avoid mistakes.

"We say it is not true," and "we say that it is a fool thing to think that it would be," replied Mr. McDiarmid, with regard to the Market charges, when doubt was cast on the reliability of the checking officials.

The inquiry adjourned till the afternoon.

OPPOSE REFERENDUM AT PRESENT JUNCTURE

Retail Merchants' Association of Opinion That Act Needs Much Amendment

The result of the canvass of the Victoria Retail Merchants' Association with regard to the experience of merchants, and their present opinions on the Saturday half-holiday law, makes it apparent that in their opinion many amendments are required in order to make workable and satisfactory to employer, employee, and the general public.

W. A. Bibbe, secretary of the association, in an interview to-day said that of course these amendments can be had only through legislation at the first sitting of parliament. A referendum vote, taken at the coming municipal election, could only change the day from Saturday to Wednesday and would have no power to deal with the many changes that the past months have shown to be very necessary.

One of the points that is overlooked is that the wholesale and retail trade are brought under the same act, while the conditions under which these two branches of industry are carried on are entirely different. The wholesaler maintains that it has long been the custom of his business house to observe Saturday as a half-holiday and that any change just at present would not be in the best interests of his trade.

The omission in the act to provide for holiday shopping, etc., and the opportunities for unfair competition in many lines of trade, together with the inequalities shown in the penalties for the violation of the law are a few of the points that the Retail Merchants' Association feels should be brought before the legislature. The association is strongly opposed to a referendum vote being taken, owing to the fact that such a vote could affect only the day, which is but one of the many difficulties that have to be solved before satisfaction will be experienced by the community at large. It is therefore the opinion of the local organization that the above-mentioned amendments should be obtained before an effort is made to have a referendum to change the day.

POTATO PRICES ARE SLUMPING IN B. C.

Quotations From Many Points Show Local Market Easier Than Elsewhere

The following statement, furnished by R. M. Winslow, provincial horticulturist and inspector of fruit pests, and which shows the prices of potatoes to the consumer at various points over the North American continent, demonstrates that British Columbia is enjoying cheaper prices than almost any other place with the exception perhaps of Winnipeg. The quotations were collected from many points on December 8, and only very slight changes have been noted since then:

Per 100 lb. Sack.

Vancouver	.....	\$1.75 to \$1.85
Winnipeg	.....	1.50
Toronto	.....	2.50
Montreal	.....	2.25
Seattle	.....	2.25 to 2.35
Kansas City	.....	2.25
St. Joseph, Mo.	.....	2.25
Chicago	.....	2.25
New York	.....	2.25
Pittsburg	.....	2.25
Boston	.....	2.50

PUBLIC MARKET.
Business was only fair to-day. The attendance of stallholders was smaller than last week. Given fine weather there should be two more good markets this year. Prices ruled at the following average figures:

Fruit—Pears, 6 lbs. 25c; eating apples, 7 lbs. 25c; cooking apples, 10 lbs. 25c; Haldwins and Greening, per box No. 2, \$1.00; Wealthys, per box No. 2, 75c; Kings, per box No. 1, \$1.25; No. 2, \$1.00.

Dairy produce—Hen eggs, per doz. 55c; butter, per lb. 55c; cream cheese, per lb. 20c; Gouda cheese, per lb. 45c; Vegetables—Carrots, per lb. 15c; turnips, per lb. 15c; white cabbage, per lb. 2c; savoy cabbage, per lb. 8c; celery, per lb. 6c; spinach, per lb. 6c; parsnips, per lb. 2c; Brussels sprouts, 3 lbs. 25c; artichokes, 6 lbs. 25c; head lettuce, 3 for 10c; leaf lettuce, 3 bunches, 10c; sage, parsley, thyme and mint, per bunch, 5c.

Meats—Lamb, per lb. 25c to 30c; mutton, per lb. 15c to 20c; veal, per lb. 15c to 20c; beef, per lb. 10c to 15c; pork, per lb. 15c to 20c; chicken, per lb. 30c; fowl, per lb. 22c; duck, per lb. 20c; geese, per lb. 30c; turkey, per lb. 45c; dressed rabbits, per lb. 18c to 20c.

Fish—Cod, per lb. 12c; fresh herring, per lb. 7c; black bass, per lb. 10c; spring salmon, per lb. 17c; halibut, per lb. 17c; soles, per lb. 10c; smelts, per lb. 12c; crabs, each, 10c to 12c; smoked black cod, per lb. 15c to 17c; kippers, per lb. 10c to 12c; flinnie cod, per lb. 12c; smoked salmon, per lb. 15c to 17c; brooklets, per lb. 10c.

Bert Bell, of Nanaimo, better known as "Gunner" Bell, has again signed up for active service. "Gunner" Bell was a British army reservist when the war broke out and was engaged in the call was made left for the front. After serving his time with the artillery he returned to his home in Nanaimo but the call has been too strong for him to resist and although he has already done more than his bit, he is again leaving for France to help in the driving back of the Germans from the soil of France and Belgium.

ANSWERS CRITICISM OF EXCESS LEVIES

City Comptroller Shows That "Arrears" Fund Comprises Several Assets

An interesting answer from the city comptroller was filed with city council last evening answering the statements which have frequently appeared in letters to the press and in meetings of the Civic Retrenchment Association, that money is being withdrawn from the pockets of the willing tax payers in order to make up the deficiency caused by other taxpayers either able or unwilling to pay their taxes.

The figure in statements, "Arrears," appears to be the stumbling block. As Mr. Raymur states, the arrears does not represent overpayments of taxes, but are due to three reasons: (1) The city must levy the sum sufficient to cover expenditure. Irrespective of whether the taxes are paid within the period or not, and thus after the rebate date the extra sum goes into the arrears. (2) The saving on the estimates at the latter part of each year, since 1912 and 1913 the absorption of local improvement commutations and other payments into this fund, as a floating fund to be paid back later.

There seems to be a good deal of misconception on this matter," reported City Comptroller Raymur. "The statement compiled at the time the rate was struck proves conclusively that the council did not and never intended to levy a rate that would be sufficient to take care of even a small portion of the unpaid taxes.

This amount of arrears which seems to be looked upon as a surplus caused by taxation, is made up as follows. In the first place, the arrears are the gross amount levied, whereas the tax rate is arrived at on a basis of the net amount. Consequently, the arrears as shown, include the difference between the gross and the net amount.

"Secondly, the council has not in any year since 1912, expended the full amount of the estimates. Every year a number of items in the estimates are not expended because the money is not available and in many cases the various committees have been able to keep the departmental expenditure less than the estimate. These items may properly be considered a surplus, but it is the result of, not over taxation, but careful expenditure.

"Lastly, a large number of local improvement assessments have been absorbed in the revenue in the shape of commuted payments and payments in advance. A large number of local improvement by-laws have been assessed but the debentures, not having been sold, there are no payments as yet due to the sinking fund."

"Therefore these arrears are liable for the annual payments on the commuted assessments and on the sinking funds, when required, as they become due.

"It would, perhaps, have been more correct to have paid these amounts into a separate account, but this course would have necessitated borrowing a large amount on the arrears with the accompanying heavy charges for interest. This is a policy the council has so far, not adopted and is endeavoring to stand off until the last possible moment. These transactions appear both in the balance sheet and cash statement."

Thus one table shows that the estimated expenditure of \$3,786,622 in 1916 will be met by a revenue of \$618,573, leaving \$3,168,049 to be raised from tax. The gross rate in 1916 is 26.58 mills, and 19 mills net, as against 19.82 mills gross in 1915, and 18 mills net.

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You, of course, realize the importance of securing a neat fitting, smartly shaped Pump. We who specialize in Shoe fitting can guarantee you satisfaction. Our stock comprises the best of the recent styles for both men and women in dull kid, patent leather, etc.

Come in to-morrow—we promise you a "glove fit."

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Modern eight-room house, corner Simcoe and St. Andrews streets. Apply

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1222 Broad St. Phone 672

Personal

Hugh Stewart, M. P. P. for Comox, is in the city to-day on public business.

Hon. H. C. Brewster, premier of B. C., who spent the Christmas season in company with a very bad cold, is somewhat better to-day. He got down to his office yesterday afternoon for a short time, and is to-day engaged in a long sitting, what with a council meeting, deputations and correspondence.

At St. Mary's church, Oak Bay, a marriage was celebrated this afternoon at half-past two between Miss Maude McBarric Smith, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. McB. Smith, 1538 Clive drive, Oak Bay, and Mr. Walter Campbell Brown, accountant in the Canadian Bank of Commerce this city, son of J. Cunningham Brown, of New Westminster. The rite was performed by Rev. H. Payne, rector of St. Mary's. The bride was attired in a handsome robe of cream satin, with hat to match, and was attended by Miss Gertrude Brown, of New Westminster, sister of the bridegroom. She wore a becoming frock of pink. The Christmas decorations in the church made a beautiful setting for the ceremony, which was very quiet, only a small gathering of the immediate relatives and friends of the principals being present. Afterwards there was a reception at the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs. Newton T. Burdick, Wilmot place, Oak Bay, where the bride and bridegroom received the good wishes and congratulations of their friends. Mr. and Mrs. Brown, who are spending their honeymoon in Seattle, will make their home in Victoria.

Royal Victoria Yacht Club Dance—Members and friends are reminded of this, Clubhouse, Uplands, Friday, 29.

Man Who Elected Ross—Mayor Gillett, Prince George, the man who made possible the election of W. F. Ross in Fort George riding by running as an Independent Conservative, is in the city to-day, having run over from Vancouver, where he had been called by civic business. Needless to say, while he was in town he looked up the late minister of lands.

Demand Phoenix Beer. Home product.

VICTORIA BOOK & STATIONERY Co., Ltd.

1002 Government St.

FUNERAL NOTICE

Members of Victoria Columbia Lodge, No. 1, A. F. & A. M., B. C. R., are requested to meet at the Masonic Temple, Engad street, on Thursday, the 28th of December, 1916, at 1:30 p. m. sharp, to attend the funeral of our late brother, A. F. Forbes, P. M. Members of city lodges and surrounding brethren in good standing are invited to attend.

By order of the W. M. A. ST. G. FLINT, Secy.

NEW YEAR CARDS

Xmas Sphere, Truth and Bystander just to hand.

Don't forget our Special Discount upon Books for prizes.

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GERMANS WOULD SINK ALL VESSELS

People Reported to Be Demanding the Resumption of Campaign of Frightfulness

New York, Dec. 27.—The Herald, in a prominently displayed front page article, declares it is "enabled to announce authoritatively" that the German people are demanding of their government the resumption of the campaign of frightfulness, even at the cost of war with the United States. The article reads: "Mr. James W. Gerard, American ambassador to Berlin, and other diplomats in Germany who were recently in America, came for the purpose of discussing the situation in Germany and of effecting some sort of arrangement so that peace between the two countries could still be maintained, according to a high government official.

"Only the personal insistence of the German emperor, however, aided by the influence of Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg, prevented the German government from ordering German submarine commanders to sink every ship approaching a British port, whether armed or unarmed, whether enemy or neutral.

"In a recent conference with American diplomats in Germany, the president was told that even the Conservative party in Germany favored a resumption of the submarine campaign, and that not even the Kaiser and Chancellor would be able to hold in leash the dogs of war beyond this spring. It was this information which caused the president to send out his recent note on the subject of peace which has so puzzled the students of international politics all over the world. It was this information which must have been in the mind of Mr. Lansing, the secretary of state, when he said that the United States was 'on the verge of war.'

The official who gave this information to the Herald made a further explanation.

"The German people reason that one or two more nations against them will make but a slight difference," he said. "They know that for years could an enemy invade German soil. Therefore, they say, why not starve England as one of the measures to end the war? They are demanding to know of their government what it knows of the United States to ship munitions of war and to say that such vessels must not be sunk.

"The chancellor, and even the Kaiser, has told the people that Germany must keep the friendship of the United States so that Germany can come here and borrow money for rehabilitation after the war. The answer of the people has been: 'Why not win the war and let our money for rebuilding come in the form of indemnities from the enemies of Germany?'

This question those who are our friends abroad are trying to answer, and they are trying it very unsuccessfully.

"Recently I made a trip through Germany. Because of a government connection I was treated with courtesy, but I could see that Americans were hated. Americans living there told me that Americans were despised even more than the British in some quarters, and the British in the Teutonic arch-enemy. Strange to say, the Germans told me they liked the French.

"President Wilson was informed that among common talk was that the German people would force war with the United States if he did not declare war on Germany. The president received this information slightly more than a month ago. The government official declared: 'For I was told on the highest authority that Germany will start her campaign of frightfulness before the spring drive of the allies begins, and if the campaign of marine terror is waged there is one thing America can do and that is to declare war.'

NO REPLY FROM CARRANZA.

Washington, Dec. 27.—In the absence of any reply from General Carranza to the insistence of the American commissioners that he ratify or reject the protocol signed at Atlantic City, Secretary Lane, chairman of the American commission, took the first step today toward closing the negotiations. He sent to Dr. R. M. Mott and Judge George Gray, the other members of the American commission, a request to meet him here some time this week. At that meeting there will be agreed upon the details for bringing to an end the conferences of the Mexican-American joint commission. The only communication from the Mexicans received today was a note from the secretary of the Mexican commission, sent last night, in which it was said that no reply from General Carranza had been received.

BATTLE RAGING ON ROUMANIAN FRONT

In Some Sectors Enemy Has Been Repulsed With Heavy Losses

Petrograd, Dec. 27.—The following official statement on military operations was issued today: "Roumanian front.—Throughout the day the enemy made a number of fierce attacks along almost the whole of the front. In the region of the upper stream of the river Rinnik, north of Megura, he succeeded in pressing back slightly our cavalry detachments and infantry detachments of the Roumanians.

"On the Rinnik road our detachments, after having repulsed a series of attacks, were obliged to abandon first line trenches which were demolished by artillery fire.

"Enemy attacks in the remaining sectors were beaten back with great losses to him, and in the village of Valea-Selzet, by our counter-attacks, we captured several machine guns.

"In Dobruja, there were operations by small detachments."

German Statement.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—The five-day battle which has been in progress in Eastern Wallachia has resulted in the piercing of the Russian lines at several points, army headquarters announced today. The Russians were definitely defeated on a front of 17 kilometres southwest of Rinnik-Sarat. Several fortified villages have been captured by the Teutonic Danube army, and the Russians have been forced to retreat to prepared positions further north.

A total of 700 prisoners and 27 machine guns have been captured since Dec. 22 by the 9th army and more than 1,300 prisoners by the Danube army.

TURKS ARE ROUTED BY RUSSIAN TROOPS

Petrograd, Dec. 27.—The official statement regarding operations on the Caucasian front, issued today, says: "On Monday night the Turks, about one battalion strong, assumed the offensive in the region of Petrakolai, but were repulsed by our fire. By our counter-attacks the Turks were driven into their entrenchments.

"In the region of Charkkhan, west of Mush, our detachments drove the Turks from their trenches and captured some prisoners.

"In the vicinity of Lake Van, our detachments, after having dislodged a Turkish patrol guard, developed an attack and occupied the village of Attman. Under our pressure the Turks, about one battalion strong, retired eastward."

JAPANESE DIET OPENED BY EMPEROR

Tokio, Dec. 27.—The diet was opened today by the emperor, who, in his address from the throne, expressed his gratification that the relations between the empire and the treaty powers were growing closer. He declared that the alliance with Great Britain and the convention with France were becoming stronger, and called attention also to the new convention with Russia, which he termed a matter for congratulation. The emperor explained that he had ordered the ministers to draft bills necessary for the development of the country "keeping in mind the world situation."

RECEIVES COPIES OF LETTER.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Copies of a letter from former Premier Venizelos to Gen. Krassas, head of the Greek revolutionary movement in Athens, calling for extreme efforts to bring Greece into war on the side of the allies, even to the destruction of the proper hour of all designated persons no matter who they may be, were delivered to the state department today by Greek Charge Vouras for its information. The letter was said to have been seized in the general's house and was dated Nov. 24.

PETROLEUM SUPPLY.

Albany, N. Y., Dec. 27.—Methods of development and cheapening for commercial purposes the supply of petroleum in this country and Canada will be among the principal subjects discussed at the annual meetings of the Geological Society of America and Paleontological Association of American State Geologists, the first of which were held today. Scientists from all parts of the country, including 36 state geologists, are here for the sessions.

GREEK ARMY IS BEING DEMOBILIZED

London, Dec. 27.—The foreign office has received advices that the Greek government is carrying out its promise to demobilize the Greek army.

TAKING OFFICERS' COURSE IN ENGLAND

University Battalion Has Been Converted Into Training Corps

Winnipeg, Dec. 27.—What remains in England of the 196th University Battalion, now in training at Seaford, Eng., has been converted into officers' training courses, according to private advices received in the city today.

Members of the battalion who took officers' training courses will be sent to advanced schools in England before being sent to the Canadian divisions.

The senior officers of the battalion are strong because of the number of casualties incurred in big engagements of the summer and fall. Those who did not take a course in Canada will be enrolled for preliminary officers' courses.

Three of the officers of the 196th have already been sent to the front. On Nov. 17, it was announced that the entire battalion was to be split up and sent to the front to reinforce other battalions, and news of the latest decision comes as a surprise locally.

COLD WAVE STRIKES COAST STATES

Lower Temperatures Reported; Snow is Falling in Oregon

Seattle, Dec. 27.—The lowest temperature here last night was 28 above zero, this being the lowest of the winter thus far. The temperature is rising.

Warmer weather is predicted, with rain or snow. A storm is approaching from the ocean. Light snow fell today in southwestern Washington and at Port Angeles.

Lower Temperatures.

Spokane, Dec. 27.—Eastern Washington, Idaho and Montana suffered from a cold wave again today with Montana points reporting lower temperatures than yesterday. Great Falls, Mont., reported officially that the mercury stood 27 degrees below zero. The lowest registered in Spokane last night was two degrees below zero, a rise of 10 degrees from the lowest temperature yesterday. Pocatello, Idaho, reported a temperature of four above.

Northern Idaho, below-zero temperatures were registered.

Snow at Portland.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 27.—Portland lay under a heavy white blanket today, snow having started to fall shortly before daybreak. By 9 a.m. the snow was about four inches deep. Weather bureau officials said the fall was confined to the northwestern section of the state and predicted it probably would continue until noon.

TWELVE KILLED BY TORNADO IN ARKANSAS

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 27.—The winter tornado which yesterday swept through Central Arkansas, gathered for its toll twelve deaths. The known injured numbered 23. It was estimated that the storm caused property damage of \$3,000,000.

Passengers arriving here today brought reports of the wiping out of a negro settlement at Kew between here and Tucker.

The tornado cut a path four miles wide. Many homes were set afire by the lightning which attended the storm.

OUTNUMBERED BY VILLA TROOPS

El Paso, Tex., Dec. 27.—Official confirmation of the occupation of Torreon by Villa forces was made today by Capt. Bravo here. Torreon was evacuated by Gen. Talamante and his command of 1,500 de facto troops, Bravo said, because of a superior force. Consul Bravo denied the rumors which have been circulated here for the past two days that Gen. Francisco Murguía, commander at Chihuahua City, had an understanding with Villa and had made no effort to oppose Villa's recent capture of Chihuahua City. Bravo said that if Gen. Obregon took the field in command of the Carranza forces against Villa, the Villa revolution would be short-lived.

PORTAGE PIONEER DIES.

Portage la Prie, Man., Dec. 27.—Capt. William Sheppard, for twelve years governor of Portage la Prie, died in his apartment in that institution this morning at the age of 76. Capt. Sheppard was one of the best known men of Portage. He was a pioneer of 1881, coming here from Clinton, Ont.

PEACE CONFERENCE UNLIKELY.

London, Dec. 27.—It is not believed in official circles here that there exists any possibility of assembling a peace conference, as proposed in the German reply to President Wilson's note, unless Germany is willing to make suggestions in advance regarding her ideas of the terms of peace.

EXPECTED GERMANY TO OUTLINE TERMS

Reply From Berlin Proves Disappointing to Washington Officials

Washington, Dec. 27.—Germany's reply to President Wilson's peace note had not been received here in official form early today and officials were reserving their comment until they had opportunity to study it.

Despite the disappointment because Germany has not acceded to the president's suggestion and laid down her terms, the general view prevailed that the reply was another step forward in the peace movement because it left room for subsequent negotiations.

The United States undoubtedly is expected to reply to Germany's statement in the sense of her reply to the entente belligerents, and the immediate outcome depends upon whether the allies will modify their determination not to enter a conference before terms have been laid down. It was pointed out that the way had not been closed for Germany to lay down terms as the allies demand. In a diplomatic negotiation of such magnitude and scope, officials do not look for results to be immediately apparent, but expect the way to be paved carefully and slowly.

The next move will not be determined until after the official text of the reply has been received and carefully considered. President Wilson will discuss it thoroughly with the cabinet probably Friday.

Some officials pointed out that the United States could do nothing further and could not decide on a course until the entente allies also have replied to the note. Their answer has been forecasted by entente diplomats here as a courteous recognition of the president's purposes and ideals, but probably a firm refusal to enter into conference without having terms advanced first.

Officials are inclined to hold to the view that the door to negotiations must necessarily remain open until the allies themselves close it.

Teutonic Views.

The view persisted in Teutonic quarters that Germany's reply would be followed by a highly confidential oral or written communication concerning the terms upon which the central powers are willing to make peace. The German embassy, which repeatedly has made it clear that the central powers were not likely to make public their terms, had received no official advices from Berlin today, but definite information regarding the intentions of the Teutonic allies was expected.

Lacking official advices, Teutonic diplomats were unable to throw much light upon the manner in which terms might be confidentially appended to the note given out in Berlin. It was regarded as probable that they might be conveyed to President Wilson through Ambassador Gerard. In such event, even the fact that they had been stated would not be disclosed.

Reports repeated in press dispatches from Rome that Germany had presented to the neutral nations whose services she asked in forwarding peace suggestions sealed packages containing terms were the subject of most comment in diplomatic quarters. The Rome report had it that the packages were not to be opened and forwarded to Germany's enemies unless they, in reply to the notes of the central powers of December 12, specifically requested the terms. In German circles here it was considered more probable that direct information on the subject would be conveyed personally to President Wilson.

Official information has been received here that Sweden had addressed a peace note to the belligerents and sent copies to neutrals urging consideration of terms of peace.

Secretary Lansing said in response to questions today that such a note had not reached the state department and he had no knowledge of its having been dispatched.

The advices received here said the note had already been delivered in some of the belligerent capitals and that it much resembled the Swiss note, which was an expression of endorsement of President Wilson's note.

There were no indications to show what Spain intends doing.

Sweden's Action.

Berne, Dec. 27.—The Tagblatt announces that the Swedish diplomatic representatives have handed to both belligerents and neutrals a note in support of those of President Wilson and the Swiss government.

The London Daily Telegraph stated this morning that it understood that the Swedish government had sent a note to the belligerent nations similar to that dispatched by Switzerland.

Confers With President.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Secretary Lansing conferred with President Wilson late today for the first time since Germany responded to the American note. He said the official German communication had not been received at the state department and repeated that no communications supporting the position of the United States had yet come from Sweden.

ITALIAN REPORT.

Rome, Dec. 27.—"In the Adige valley," says today's official statement, "our artillery kept the enemy's lines under vigorous fire and disturbed his working parties."

"On the rest of the front the completion of our field work was interrupted at several points by skirmishes with the enemy's advanced posts."

ARTILLERY ACTIVE IN YPRES SALIENT

Germans Also Report Heavy Shelling in Region North of the Somme

Paris, Dec. 27.—The night was calm, except on the front between Vacherguville and Vaux (Verduin sector), where the artillery was very active, says today's official statement.

Lieut. Hericieux on December 24 brought down his fourteenth aeroplane between Chaulnes and Hyencourt le Grand (south of the Somme).

German Report.

Berlin, Dec. 27.—Nine aeroplanes were lost by the entente in aerial engagements along the western front yesterday, the war office announced today. There has been violent artillery activity in the Ypres salient, and in the region north of the river Somme.

BERLIN COMMENTS ON GERMANY'S NOTE

Amsterdam, Dec. 27.—Commenting on the German reply to President Wilson's note, the Lokal Anzeiger, of Berlin, says: "From the fact that Germany has not allowed the Christmas festival to pass without replying to President Wilson's notes, even our enemies must gain the conviction that we made the peace offer seriously. Should Mr. Wilson be induced by our note to recommend to our enemies that they send representatives to a neutral place for the purpose of peace negotiations we still should be far from abandoning ourselves to the hope that the move would meet with success in London, Paris, Petrograd and Rome."

The Tagliche Rundschau, of Berlin, says: "Our government's announcement of its desire to bring about an end of the conflict with our enemies in principal negotiations with the cooperation of neutrals is very satisfactory because it gives us guarantees that we will decide decisively the interference of non-participants in the fighting and in the creation of peace."

The Vossische Zeitung, referring to the Swiss note, says: "If further neutral notes are couched in similar tone they certainly will find a sympathetic understanding among us."

MAY WHEAT SHOWS ADVANCE AT CHICAGO

Chicago, Dec. 27.—The wheat market opened up and during the early part of the day declined about a point. Later, local shorts turned buyers, and strong bids at the Gulf and seaboard which came in caused the commission houses to disregard the impossibility of getting wheat out of the country and the market became stronger. May wheat selling nearly six points above the low for the day. Corn and oats were firm and but little changed, except Western Worn which are one shilling higher. Corn unchanged.

Wheat—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	129	134	132	133 1/2
May	109 1/2	112 1/2	110 1/2	111 1/2
July	133 1/2	137 1/2	131 1/2	135 1/2

Corn—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
May	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
July	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92

Oats—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
May	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
July	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2

Minneapolis.

Wheat—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	129 1/2	134 1/2	132 1/2	133 1/2
May	109 1/2	112 1/2	110 1/2	111 1/2
July	133 1/2	137 1/2	131 1/2	135 1/2

Corn—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
May	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
July	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92

Oats—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
May	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
July	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2

Minneapolis.

Wheat—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	129 1/2	134 1/2	132 1/2	133 1/2
May	109 1/2	112 1/2	110 1/2	111 1/2
July	133 1/2	137 1/2	131 1/2	135 1/2

Corn—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
May	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
July	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92

Oats—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
May	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
July	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2

Minneapolis.

Wheat—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	129 1/2	134 1/2	132 1/2	133 1/2
May	109 1/2	112 1/2	110 1/2	111 1/2
July	133 1/2	137 1/2	131 1/2	135 1/2

Corn—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
May	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
July	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92

Oats—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
May	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
July	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2

Minneapolis.

Wheat—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	129 1/2	134 1/2	132 1/2	133 1/2
May	109 1/2	112 1/2	110 1/2	111 1/2
July	133 1/2	137 1/2	131 1/2	135 1/2

Corn—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
May	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
July	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92

Oats—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
May	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
July	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2

Minneapolis.

Wheat—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	129 1/2	134 1/2	132 1/2	133 1/2
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Corn—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
May	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92
July	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92

Oats—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
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July	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2

Minneapolis.

Wheat—

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Corn—

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July	91 1/2	92 1/2	91 1/2	92

Oats—

	Open	High	Low	Close
Dec.	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	50 1/2
May	49 1/2	50 1/2	49 1/2	

GREAT INCREASE IN OUTPUT OF COAL

On Vancouver Island There
Was Gain of Nearly One-
Half in 1915

An increase of twenty-six per cent. in the tonnage of coal mined in the province is shown by a statement which the minister of mines had prepared some days ago. This gratifying figure is greatly exceeded by the increase in the mines on Vancouver Island, where the increase in tonnage was forty-eight per cent.

The tonnage for 1916 is, of course, estimated so far as the present month is concerned, but the figures for 1915 are the actual amounts mined by each of the colliery operators in the province.

In the Crow's Nest Pass field there was an increase of about ten per cent. in the output at Coal Creek, but at Michel there was a decrease of twelve per cent. The output at the various mines in the Nicola field, the largely-increased output in the Vancouver Island mines brings up the average.

In the largest increase and largest percentage of increase was at the Comox ovens of the Canadian Collieries. The Michel ovens showed considerable increase, but at Fernie there was a large falling-off.

In long tons of 2,240 pounds the output of the several mines is as follows:

Company.	1916.	1915.	Gain or Loss.
C.N.P.C. Co. (Coal Creek)	567,320	511,994	15,326
C. N. P. C. Co. (Michel)	244,458	278,124	33,666
Corbin Coal & Coke Company	65,866	62,544	3,322
Princeton Coal & Land Co.	24,523	35,458	9,935
Middlebrook Col- lieries Co.	45,146	47,803	2,657
Inland Coal & Coke Company	35,840	34,710	1,130
Pacific Coal Syndi- cate	1,905	1,905	0
Western Fuel Co. Vancouver-Nanaimo	585,600	415,223	169,377
C. M. Co.	75,567	47,576	27,991
Pacific Coast Coal Mines	155,000	125,451	29,549
Canadian Collieries (Comox)	453,112	298,541	154,571
Canadian Collieries (Extension)	262,737	166,971	95,766
Total	2,456,093	1,972,580	483,513
Coal	2,456,093	1,972,580	483,513
C. N. P. C. Co. Fernie	128,609	147,128	18,519
C. N. P. C. Co. Michel	135,424	95,292	40,132
Canadian Collieries, Comox	28,484	5,426	23,058
Total	262,517	247,846	14,671

ONE SOLDIER ARRIVES

Cpl. Vallee, of 102nd Battalion, Suffering From Wounds Received in Action.

One returned soldier, Cpl. C. Vallee, who enlisted at Prince Rupert and went to the front as a member of the 102nd Battalion which went from Nanaimo last June, came in on the afternoon boat to-day. Cpl. Vallee, who is wounded in the left arm and in the face, and has his right leg impaired by shell explosion.

Ten men are due to arrive on the afternoon boat from Vancouver to-morrow provided the C. E. R. train reaches the coast in time. They are: Pte. Maher, J. McGoffrey, 36th Battalion; Pte. J. A. McGregor, C. P. T. D.; Pte. D. McClellan, 32nd Battalion; Pte. R. Patton, 30th Battalion; Pte. W. J. Preston, 38th Battalion; Pte. C. W. Sweetzer and C. E. White, 30th Battalion; and Pte. C. T. Whitehead, 30th Battalion.

Pte. Powers, who was travelling with the same detachment from Ottawa, has been given seven days' furlough at Regina, and Pte. Fleming, also of the detachment, is stopping over at Calgary for seven days.

Beet Sugar Possibilities.—Representations are being made to the government in the matter of the cultivation of sugar beets and the production of beet sugar, to which agricultural and industrial developments it is said this province lends itself particularly.

Meet Civil Servants.—Professor Adam Shortt, who is here in connection with the revision of the Civil Service of this province will meet the local members of the Dominion service at the Empress hotel on Saturday evening, when it is understood he will deliver an address.

Gold and Silver Collection.—The committee of the Blue Cross fund will send out collectors for broken gold and silver as soon as possible after Thursday, Dec. 28. Those who have contributions to make will greatly assist the work of collectors by having these contributions ready beforehand. No collector is authorized by the society who cannot show a card signed by the secretary or president. Telephone calls to 4960, stating where such collections can be made will be greatly appreciated.

RESUMES COMMAND.

Vancouver, Dec. 27.—Colonel J. S. Hall, who was blown up by a big shell and buried in the falling debris one day on the Somme battlefield some months ago, has sufficiently recovered to resume his duties at the front in command of the 29th Battalion.

Vancouver, Dec. 27.—R. E. Mansfield, who was United States consul general here for some years and who was succeeded by George West, has resigned the consular service. Recently he was transferred to Stockholm, but afterward declined the post.

STEAMER SHIMBU MARU REPORTED ON SOUND

The Japanese steamer Shimbu Maru, about which the local shipping officials have been concerned the past few days, arrived at Tacoma on December 25, after a passage of 21 days from Yokohama. The vessel was posted to come to Victoria to discharge Oriental cargo, but the vessel omitted the scheduled call at this port. Local agents were advised to-day of the arrival of the Shimbu Maru on the Sound.

HALF-HOLIDAY CASES IN COURT TO-MORROW

Preliminary Batch of Sixty Being Summoned by Police

Sixty preliminary cases of merchants who kept open on Saturday afternoon and evening in contravention of the law will be summoned to appear before the magistrate to-morrow morning and another sixty or thereabouts will be brought up later. The clerk of the court has been busy for the last day or two preparing the summonses and making preparations for the case.

Chief Langley this morning stated that so far as he knew there were no second offence cases among those which are to be tried. All those who kept open on a former occasion were apparently closed last Saturday. The result will be that no fine is likely to exceed \$10. The penalty for the second offence may go as high as \$50.

A good deal of interest is taken in these cases because of the large number who violated the law.

In Vancouver the number who kept open on Saturday was much smaller than here. The police of that city report that 47 are to answer the charge. Those that were open did a very large business.

In New Westminster most of the grocery stores, drygoods and bookstores remained open, but the men's furnishing establishments, which advertised that they would be open for business, at the last minute decided to close.

IN INTEREST OF ROYAL FLYING CORPS

Capt. Lord Innes-Ker Guest at Government House To-day

Capt. Lord Alastair Robert Innes-Ker, D. S. A., is here to-day in connection with securing recruits for the Royal Flying Corps. He has been making a tour through Canada, spending a few days at each centre. Several days were spent in Vancouver, and he will remain here for a short time.

Already a number of Victorians have joined different branches of the aerial service. Until recently it was necessary that training should be taken on this continent before leaving for the Old Country. Some of the work was done at Toronto, but many attended the schools of aviation in the United States. Now it has been arranged that applicants who pass the preliminary examination may go to England to take their training.

No less than three applications have been made to the admiral superintendent of the dockyard at Esquimalt to-day for permission to enter the Royal Naval Air Service, which is a different branch altogether. For it a very stiff medical test is given applicants, and they must have plenty of nerve and conform to the other requirements, particulars of which can be obtained at Esquimalt. Since the beginning of the war men have been accepted for the service, but of late the numbers have increased considerably. It is essentially a young man's job, and those who join must have endurance and be prepared for hardship. Only those who have been well educated are accepted.

This afternoon his honor the lieutenant governor gave a luncheon for the visitor, at which were present Hon. H. C. Brewster, premier of the province, and several other gentlemen whom Lord Innes-Ker desired to meet. Lord Innes-Ker is endeavoring to interest Canadians in the service in which so many of their countrymen are doing splendid work for the empire, and to promote the establishments of aeronautical schools.

VISIT MINISTERS

Incoming and Retiring Japanese Consuls Made Tour of Buildings This Morning.

S. Ukita, who comes to Canada as the Imperial Japanese consul-general at Vancouver, is in the city to-day to see his predecessor, Kishida Abe, away on the Empress of Asia to-morrow.

This morning Mr. Abe brought his successor around the parliament buildings and introduced him to Premier Brewster and to the several ministers. It is understood that Mr. Ukita will take up several matters of business with the ministers later.

This afternoon Mr. Ukita and Mr. Abe were the guests of his honor lieutenant-governor Barnard at Government House. Before leaving Mr. Abe will be the recipient of marks of honor from the Japanese residents of the capital in recognition of the work he has done for them while consul.

ANXIOUS FOR VOTE ON HOLIDAY QUESTION

Petitions Are Circulated Among Merchants Asking City Council for Referendum

Petitions are being circulated in the city to-day asking the city council to submit a referendum to the voters at the election which is to be held on January 11, to change the half holiday from Saturday to Wednesday afternoon. This movement is entirely independent of the census of opinion undertaken by the Retail Merchants' Association.

Over 100 separate petitions are being circulated to-day through the stores of the city and, if a referendum is to be obtained, the petitions must be handed to the city council before the end of the week, in view of the fact that the movement must be advertised for at least ten days prior to the election. The present half holiday act requires that such petitions must be signed by at least 10 per cent. of the voters on the municipal lists.

Merchants, who are interested in the campaign, assert that little difficulty will be encountered in obtaining the necessary signatures, because public opinion in Victoria is largely in favor of the change to Wednesday, now that the Saturday afternoon has been tried and found unsatisfactory. Strong support of the movement is said to be coming from the small merchants owing to the fact that those of them who kept open on Saturday afternoon and evening to cope with the Christmas trade are being fined as heavily as the large establishments whose sales during the hours that they illegally kept open would be out of all proportion to that of the small dealer. The change to Wednesday is also being advocated by the merchants near the city limits.

They assert that while they are forced to close their establishments on Saturday afternoon, dealers on the same block, but outside the city, are permitted to keep open for business. The petitions in circulation are worded as follows:

"To the mayor and council of the city of Victoria: We, the undersigned electors qualified to vote at an election for mayor respectfully request that a referendum be submitted to the voters at the election on the 11th of January next pursuant to the Half Holiday Act 1916, on the question whether the half holiday be on Wednesday or on Saturday."

The petitions in circulation are worded as follows:

AT MENTAL HOSPITAL

Provincial Secretary Makes Inspection of Institution at Esquimalt, Where There Are Many Patients.

Hon. Dr. J. D. MacLean, provincial secretary, in whose department supervision of the hospital for mental diseases lies, spent part of the holiday by taking a run over to the colony farm at Esquimalt.

There are about twelve hundred patients in the hospital at present, but not one under physical restraint, which probably constitutes a record. The patients are, for large part, engaged in outdoor work, which assists their cure.

Dr. MacLean found conditions at the hospital excellent on the whole. He made a very careful inspection of the place, within and without, and will likely have some recommendations to make to his colleagues later on.

OBITUARY RECORD

Full military honors were accorded the late Pte. Joseph Joyal, whose funeral took place this morning from the B. C. Funeral Parlors at 9:30. Requiem mass was said at St. Andrew's cathedral at 10 o'clock by Rev. Father McKee, assisted by Rt. Rev. Mgr. Leternie. Father MacDonald officiated at the grave. The funeral was in charge of the Yukon Infantry Company, which attended in a body, headed by Captain Black and other officers of the unit. The Fifth Regiment Band played the military march, and a firing party and escort from the Yukon company marched out at the head of the procession to Ross Bay, where interment took place. At the grave the "Last Post" was sounded by a bugler, and three volleys were fired. The pallbearers were all comrades of the deceased soldier from the Yukon company. They were Ptes. Milosovich, S. R. Roderie, G. E. Wright, R. Saunders, T. Draper and W. A. Williams.

The funeral of James Michael, who died at his residence, 1127 Chapman street, last Friday, took place yesterday at 1:45 p.m. from the Sands chapel, and fifteen minutes later services were held at St. Barnabas' church, where Rev. E. G. Miller officiated. Many friends attended the obsequies and the casket was covered with flowers. The pallbearers were Messrs. G. H. Roe, L. Cooper, Harry Lowe, and Arthur Marsden.

The funeral of Alexander Duff Low, who died last Saturday, took place yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock from the Thomson chapel, where Rev. J. G. Inkster officiated. Victoria Lodge, No. 1, I. O. O. F., was in charge of the funeral. Many friends were present at the obsequies, and the floral offerings were abundant, among them being wreaths from the Postal Clerks' Association and the Victoria Letter Carriers. The pallbearers were: Messrs. C. Bridgen, C. H. Hinkins, J. B. Sinclair, of the post office staff; Bro. W. McKay, R. Livingstone and J. A. Gardner, of the I. O. O. F. Burial took place in Ross Bay cemetery.

Regina, Sask., Dec. 27.—As a result of pouring coal oil on a stove fire yesterday, Sachetoe Cormism, aged six, is dead, while her mother is not expected to live, and a brother, aged four, is seriously burned.

NO SUNDAY WORK IN SHELL FACTORIES

Hours of Labor Reduced but There is No Decrease in Output

London, Dec. 27.—"Except for quite short periods, continuous work is a profound mistake and does not pay—output is not increased."

This is the conclusion arrived at after exhaustive inquiries by the health of munitions workers committee into the question of working hours and more particularly of Sunday labor.

As a result the discontinuance of Sunday labor has been arranged in all national shell factories and in the national projectile factories. In the latter factories exception will be made in the case of rectification of shells and the cleaning of shops.

Many firms reported that "seven days" labor only produced six days' output. The workers themselves were at first attracted by the high rate of wages for Sunday work, but it was found that they soon began to "lose time."

The committee, which includes amongst its members representatives of the home office, admiralty and supply departments of the ministry of munitions, has approved the terms of the new munitions of war general order, recently made by the home office, under which the hours of labor for women and girls have been reduced to a maximum total of 60 per week, and the hours for boys under 18 to a maximum total of 63 per week, except when employed on the overtime system, when a maximum of 65 is sanctioned.

Already 126 of the controlled establishments which had employed Sunday labor have intimated that they have discontinued it, and in one case, but of a munitions works in the Midlands, it is reported that in a period of 10 weeks following the cessation of Sunday labor, no reduction of output has been caused by the restriction of hours.

At the last meeting of the Nanaimo city council it was decided to prepare a civic honor roll on which will be inscribed the names of all those residents of that city who have made the supreme sacrifice.

When Jack London died in California a few weeks ago the world lost one of its greatest fight fans.

London, always a lover of a fight, saw them all over the world, and would travel across the country to see a good one.

He was in Australia when Jack Johnson knocked out Tommy Burns, and it was this same Jack London who called the Johnson grin "the golden smile."

London was in Colma the day that Jim Coffroth brought those two great rivals, Jimmy Britt and Battling Nelson.

London, a "Native Son," had bet quite a few beans on Britt, the other "Native," and sat there at the ringside really expecting Jimmy to crush the Dane easily.

Round after round, however, Nelson kept tearing in, taking all that Britt had, and wearing him down gradually.

Nothing stopped him. Finally he knocked Britt cold under the ropes, then helped carry him to his corner.

In his story of that battle, London said that there was only one fighter in the world like Nelson and dubbed him the "abyssal brute."

At the last meeting of the Nanaimo city council it was decided to prepare a civic honor roll on which will be inscribed the names of all those residents of that city who have made the supreme sacrifice.

GIVE US HIS NAME

CITIZENS OF VICTORIA!

After the Urgent Appeal of the Premier and Mr. Bennett, Director of National Recruiting, the

143rd BATT'N, C.E.F.

wish to try the plan of getting

A NAME

of any eligible young man who has not joined the colors yet.

Nearly everyone knows some definite individual who surprises them by not being in Uniform, and we ask that this Name be sent to the Officer in Charge of Recruiting for the 143rd Battalion.

If YOU know any man whom you believe able to go and give the men, who have been months in the trenches, a much needed rest,

"SEND US HIS NAME"

We will give him a chance.

LT.-COL. BRUCE POWLEY, Officer Commanding. USE THIS COUPON USE IT THOUGHTFULLY USE IT TO-DAY

LT. ELY, Recruiting Officer.

TO LIEUT. IN CHARGE RECRUITING 143rd Battalion, C. E. F., Victoria, B. C.

Date

of my knowledge, is eligible to enlist.

His Name Is

His Business Address

His Private Address

Occupation (You may sign this coupon or not, as you wish).

FOR THE SLACKER.

Don't wait and be one of the miserable few Who refused to enlist though his duty he knew— Though he gains all the wealth the world can bestow He's a poor selfish wretch with the Boys not to go!

"An Extra Run" on FRY'S COCOA



RUNNING a big Mogul on schedule time is about as complete a brain, sinew and nerve test as a man could want. So when the order comes for "An Extra Run," that engineer is wise who fortifies himself with a cup of FRY'S COCOA. FRY'S, because it builds for "nerves of steel." It's such a splendid food as well as a delicious beverage.

Drink FRY'S regularly yourself and note the vigor it imparts.

Trade Supplied by
J. S. FRY & SONS, Limited

Truro, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Victoria.



YOU WILL AGREE

That Ross' HIGH QUALITY and EFFICIENT SERVICE is Unequalled. Prices That Compare With Any.

B. C. GRANULATED SUGAR 20-lb. cotton sack	\$1.70
B. & K. ROLLED OATS, Extra Cream— 7-lb. sacks	35c
B. & K. WHEATFLAKES— Without crockery. Large packets.	30c
PURITY FOOD— Just like Cream of Wheat. 5-lb. sack.	30c
LOCAL POTATOES— 100-lb. sack	\$1.40
PACIFIC MILK— Made in B. C. Large cans.	3 for 25c
OLD DUTCH or LUX— 3 packages for	25c

Phone or
Mail Orders
Receive
Prompt
Attention

DIXIE ROSS'

"Quality Grocers," 1317 Government St.

Phone
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Liquor 65

THE EXCHANGE
718 FORT ST.
FOR BOOKS
FOR INDIAN CURIOS.
Books and Magazines Exchanged.

20 BICYCLES
Almost new, at your own
price, at the
Auction Mart
565 Johnson Street

**For That New
Year's Gift**

There is nothing more accept-
able than some pieces of our
Parisian Ivory Toilet Goods, or
an elegant bottle of Perfume.
Let us show you our stock and
quote prices.

JOHN COCHRANE
DRUGGIST.
N.W. Cor. Yates and Douglas Sts.,
at the B. C. Electric Clock.

**THERE IS MONEY IN
HOLLY BERRIES**
Large stock of berry-bearing
Hollies and Evergreen Shrubs of
all kinds; Herbaceous Plants;
Roses, many new varieties; all at
greatly reduced prices. This is the
best time to plant.

OAKLAND NURSERY CO
A. OHLSON, Prop.
1599 Hillside Ave.

**VICTORIA
LIQUOR CO.**
1205 Government St.
**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS
OFFER**
in
**WINES, LIQUORS
AND CIGARS**
"OF THE BEST."

Native Wine, per bottle 60c.
California Wine, per bottle 85c.
Special Vintage Wine, per bottle \$1.00.
Foster's Port (Portuguese),
per bottle, up \$1.50, \$1.75
Governador Port (Portuguese),
per bottle \$1.50
Croft's Imperial (Portuguese),
per bottle \$1.50
25 Cigars (hand made, in tins) \$1.50
T. J. JACKMAN,
Mgr. Director.
Phone 1623. Quick Delivery.
Come to the Big Store.

WHY NOT?
Enjoy warmth and comfort dur-
ing the winter months in the

**STRATHCONA
HOTEL**

A Class A1 fireproof building.
Rooms single or en suite, with or
without private bath.
Both American and European
Plan
RATES MODERATE
WHY NOT?

TWO THREADBARE QUESTIONS AGAIN

Transfer of Poles and Wyllie
Property Are Both Referred
to by Aldermen

Considerable time was spent last
evening by aldermen in endeavoring
to clear away the misunderstanding
arising from an editorial in the morn-
ing paper with regard to the pole
situation, which, it was claimed, took
a one-sided view of the issue.

There was nothing new to say on the
subject of the proposed pole transfers,
but Alderman Cameron explained what
everyone wanted to know, namely, that
the old poles are actually coming down
and the new ones will be up in a day
or two.

The council was advised by the
solicitor not to allow the companies to
violate the by-law, which has received
both the sanction of the ratepayers
and the legislature, and therefore re-
fused to sanction the alteration had
been the consistent policy of the alder-
men.

It appeared from what the aldermen
said that the public have been deluded
by the article into thinking the mem-
bers of the council are fools.

Since the B. C. Electric railway offi-
cials refused to sign the letter of in-
demnification protecting the city coun-
cil and officials in case of a lawsuit
no alternative offered.

Alderman Todd reminded the council
that this was the company that had
by its attitude compelled the city to
ask for an extra \$20,000 for the Rock
Bay bridge.

Incidentally, the necessary by-law,
to be submitted to the ratepayers at
the election, was passed for Rock Bay
bridge.

Another subject which has been worn
threadbare, the Wyllie lot on Selkirk
water, came up again on a report from
the finance committee recommending
that the city's title should be registered.
The tender, resubmitted by Elliott,
Maclean & Shandley at \$3,100, was
therefore not accepted. Action was
delayed for a week to enable aldermen
to see the confidential report on the
matter submitted by the city solicitor.

The mayor explained the steps taken
to endeavor to secure some compensa-
tion from the Dominion government
for use of the Willows park and build-
ings, fences, etc., had been set at
\$18,000, but hitherto in spite of every
effort, the government had not paid
the claim.

The matter was raised by Alderman
Walker who pointed out that the
"Made in Victoria" building, which
was damaged last February in the
snowstorm, ought to be shored up to
prevent its total collapse.

A committee was appointed to con-
tinue negotiations with the Dominion
government.

William Sprinkling was appointed
outside market superintendent in place
of the late Andrew Forbes, whose
position he has filled for a considerable
period during the deceased's illness.

ODE TO A 'PHONE POLE.

Ease me up tenderly,
Scrape me with care;
Creosote the end of me,
Legal and fair.
Drop me back stealthily,
Give me no name.
Gee! but we've gleefully
Fooled 'em again.

W. F.

NASAL AND THROAT CATARRH

Cured by
VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE.

As a remedy for Catarrh in all its
various forms, Veno's Lightning Cough
Cure is incomparable. The healing prin-
ciple in Veno's soothes the irritated sur-
faces of the air passages, and restores the
mucous membrane to healthy, natural
action. Then the stopped-up feeling, the
morning cough, and constant clearing of
the throat, so characteristic of nasal and
throat catarrh, are soon overcome and
cure follows, more or less rapidly accord-
ing to the severity of the case. Prices
30 cents and 60 cents, from druggists and
stores throughout Canada.

FURTHER DATA ON TAX DELINQUENCY

Information Sought by Alder-
man Todd Will Be Secured
From Officials

The additional information with re-
gard to tax delinquency sought in Alder-
man Todd's motion will be furnished,
the city council decided at its meeting
last evening. The next meeting of the
committee, which it is proposed to en-
large by the addition of outside mem-
bers, forming a representative citizens'
committee, will be held on January 3.

There was some discussion with re-
gard to the details under which ex-
propriation of lands was undertaken in
past years. Most of the arrangements
were made verbally and no records
now exist.

Alderman Todd explained that his
extended committee, as mentioned
above, would consist of 22—11 from the
council and 11 outside—to sit either to-
gether or separately.

The mayor stated that the com-
mittee would want some assurance with re-
gard to the personnel of the committee.
He believed the better way would be to
welcome information from all quarters,
irrespective of associations.

Alderman Todd foresaw the neces-
sity of some provision being made to
secure continuous advice on the mat-
ter. The whole object of suggesting the
committee was to secure protection of
the interests of the small holder.

He believed that it would be easily pos-
sible to secure 11 competent men.

The resolution was then adopted,
leaving the selection of the citizens'
committee to the council members later.

While it might appear like locking
the stable after the horse was stolen,
Alderman Porter's metaphor in intro-
ducing a motion to apply to the legis-
lature to abandon the right of petition
under the local improvement act, the
resolution was agreed to. Alderman
Todd seconded. Alderman Fullerton
wanted the petition to be fixed at 75
per cent. of the owners in numbers and
value.

SHOULD POLL TAX AGAIN BE LEVIED?

Local Council's Opinion on
Point Grey's Plan for Pa-
triotic Levy

Point Grey's suggestion to the mun-
icipalities to appeal to the government
on the establishment of a poll tax,
such fund to be devoted to patriotic
aid purposes, is occasioning very con-
siderable debate.

The matter was before the city coun-
cil last evening, and was referred to the
legislative committee for report.

Alderman Porter was not ready to
pass judgment off hand on the sub-
ject.

The motion was referred to the coun-
cil without further comment.

At the Saanich council yesterday,
after a long discussion, Point Grey's
suggestion was endorsed.

Councillor Tanner said the councillors
would welcome it more if a proviso
was made to aid the Red Cross Society
rather than the Patriotic Aid Society.

Councillor Grant was doubtful, be-
cause he thought adequate provision
was already being made for soldiers'
wives.

Reeve McGregor said it was obvious-
ly aimed at the foreigners who es-
caped their dues.

Councillor Tanner feared such a tax
would press on people who were al-
ready making their payments.

Councillor Carey spoke of the num-
ber of foreigners in Saanich who paid
nothing, and said if the tax was im-
posed it would catch 20 people who now
contributed nothing, as against one
who contributed.

Reeve McGregor assured the council
that the society's funds were used for
other purposes beyond those of aiding
soldiers' wives, for returned soldiers
and other necessary services.

Councillor Tanner thought they would
be wise to discuss at the meeting to
be held on January 5 to aid Patriotic
Aid purposes, the question of larger
hold-backs from allowances, to aid the
re-patriated soldiers.

The reeve observed that the mun-
icipalities in the east were contributing
very largely, sometimes a mill rate.

Councillor Grant observed that there
were many soldiers' wives formerly
resident in Ward V, who would have
been much better if they had stopped
there, rather than going into the city
or to England.

Councillor Carey said that came
largely from force of circumstance. The
women wanted town comforts, or had
exercised the natural desire to be near
relatives. He looked to a better organi-
zation of the patriotic aid funds in the
future.

Councillor Borden said Point Grey had
forwarded no evidence that soldiers'
wives were neglected.

Councillor Disson favored the motion
as an attempt to catch the sneak be-
hind the wood pile to get away from
the man with the hat.

Councillor Jones hoped to see more
done for the returned soldiers. That
was an aspect of their philanthropic
work which he feared was overshadowed
by other phases.

Demand Phoenix Beer. Home pro-
duct.

REFER ISSUES TO ITS SUCCESSORS

Civic Retrenchment Associ-
ation's Criticism Answered
in Council

The question of an independent
audit of the city accounts, which was
raised a week ago by the Civic Re-
trenchment Association, and has led
to much newspaper controversy, was
quickly disposed of in the city council
last evening. The matter was sent
forward to the incoming council.

Alderman Porter thought the ques-
tion should be remitted to their suc-
cessors for favorable consideration. It
would be an impossibility to have an
audit made until the books were com-
pleted for the year, in about the mid-
dle of February. The association ap-
peared to be laboring under a mis-
understanding, no one from that coun-
cil having expressed any objection to
an audit being conducted.

The mayor. It is all blamed on me.
His worship went on to explain that
his public statement had caused much
comment. He regretted the rash state-
ments made by members of the Civic
Retrenchment Association, without any
examination of the facts. "They re-
garded the mayor and aldermen as just
a lot of targets to fire something at,"
he added. After reference to the agi-
tation of 1907, and the Hellwell audit
of 1910, at a cost of \$3,800, he said what-
ever happened, the auditor had to be
paid by somebody, the government or
municipal council must be held respon-
sible, however independent was the
auditor. "We welcome an auditor to
go through the books at any
time. The mayor is blamed for every-
thing."

Alderman Bell would like to suggest
to the Civic Retrenchment Association
that it use the machinery already ex-
isting, by obtaining information from
the city departments. They were pecu-
liar advocates of retrenchment who
wanted a specialist called in at \$25 a
day, with an assistant at \$15 per day.

The question was sent on to the next
council.

Three resolutions from the same
meeting were also forwarded. That
on the referendum has already been at-
tended to, while those with regard to
the necessity for economy, and main-
tenance of boulevards went to the next
council.

INSURGENCY UPON HOLIDAY PLEBISCITE

Some Saanich Councillors Pro-
test Against Submitting
Referendum

An insurgent movement, headed by
Councillor Grant and supported by
Councillor Tanner, was lodged in the
Saanich council yesterday afternoon
against the submission of the referen-
dum on the Weekly Half Holiday act,
which must be done by statute, the
council having no power to refuse. A
referendum, however, must be sub-
mitted by by-law, and the insurgent
members would have nullified the sub-
mission of the measure by not passing
the enabling by-law.

Councillor Grant said it was a re-
trograde movement and unsatisfactory
to the council. He was against re-
striction of the people's rights to do
business, particularly in a country dis-
trict like Saanich, when it would work
a hardship to the residents. He went
on to argue that the law must inevi-
tably be swept off the statute book
shortly. It was a hardship to many
and a benefit to a few. He claimed
the councillors had a right to exercise
their votes as intelligent men.

The reeve stated since it was the
law, the council ought to take the
necessary steps to enforce it. "We are
here to administer laws," he declared,
"whatever we think of them."

Councillor Tanner pointed out no
penalty was attached for failure to
carry the statute out.

The reeve reminded him that many
laws were executed as a matter of duty
and not by fear of punishment for
omission of doing so.

Councillor Tanner continued that the
council was not bound to perpetuate
errors of legislators in things detri-
mental to the best interests of their
people. It was not British fair play
to make country stores, many of which
were carried on in conjunction with
post offices, close throughout any part
of a week day.

As a postmaster himself, Councillor
Jones said he should work for the by-
law, but for Wednesday closing. The
country storekeeper and his family
wanted holidays sometimes, Saturday
had been demanded by the shop assist-
ants, whom, he thought, had learnt a
lesson since.

Councillor Carey believed the effect
of refusing to submit the by-law would
be to make Saanich notorious.

Councillor Tanner observed, when the
question of whether the oath of office
would not be broken by refusal to
comply with the law, that it would
only be evading it.

Councillor Borden noticed in the
measure the growing tendency to
legislate on everything.

The motion to read the by-law passed,
after Councillor Grant suggested that
the notices should go out under the
"weakly" half holiday heading.

Councillor Jones appealed to the
council to assist in having Wednesday
closed next month.

The B. & V. Club will demonstrate
the two-two step Wednesday night
at Connaught Hall.

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Friday, 9.30 p.m.
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come in plain colors of rose,
Paddy, grey, sage, green,
brown and American beauty,
with self and striped trim-
mings. Price, set, \$8.50

"CHRISTMAS SPIRIT" BETWEEN COUNCILS

Aldermen Attack Saanich
Council Concerning Mount
Douglas Park

Rows between the city and Saanich
councils are of such common occur-
rence that any new one raises only a
laughing interest in the community.

Aldermen last evening verbally
lashed the Saanich council from every
standpoint, for attempting to tax the
Mount Douglas park. As reported yes-
terday, the Saanich council had given
notice of a poll to collect \$1,462 as taxes
for the reserve.

In the discussion no alderman re-
ferred to the fact that the district mun-
icipalities has spent \$37,000 this year in
building a paved road there, but they
looked at it from every other aspect.

In reporting the suit, the solicitor
stated that since the beneficiary under
the title was the crown, he had sent the
papers to the attorney-general for the
purpose of asking if he wished to in-
tervene. It was proposed to deal with
the matter as a stated case.

The mayor declared: "The sooner
the city puts its foot down, the better
it will be. I object to Saanich rubbing
it in."

Referring to an earlier com-
munication, to release Saanich from
the fire protection agreement without
insulating on the six months' notice
of the agreement, the mayor said he
would have seen they did not get off
without paying the last cent due. He
charged the district municipality with
using the gravel pit in Mount Douglas
park for road purposes, on the repre-
sentation that the municipality was
gaining no benefit from the property.

Alderman Dilworth, as chairman of
the committee, stated that the district
council had gone further, and given
away the gravel to private parties
from the city pit.

The mayor declined to listen to a
suggestion from Alderman Bell that
the matter might be cleared up by a
conference, and the mayor concluded
by the statement that the next person
who stole gravel from the pit would
be prosecuted.

Alderman Porter was inclined to
think that the differences between the
councils would be better settled by a
conference, rather than through the
columns of the newspapers.

Alderman Bell deprecated the very
harsh course taken by Saanich, and
thought it was probably an illegal one.
The communication that a stated
case would be submitted to a judge
was then received and filed.

The cat settled himself luxuriously in
front of the kitchen range and began to
purr. Little Dolly, who was strange to
the ways of cats, regarded her with hor-
ror. "O gran'ma, gran'ma!" she cried.
"Come here quick. The cat's begun to
boil."—Christian Register.

NATIONAL SERVICE REGISTRY DEBATED

Saanich Council Goes on Re-
cord in Favor of Compulsory
Return to Government

The question of national service was
debated by the Saanich council yes-
terday afternoon, the question arising
on an application to assist the Na-
tional Service registry. It came in the
form of a circular letter from the di-
rector at Ottawa.

Councillor Tanner felt that the pro-
posal should be compulsory, because
the man who had hitherto shirked
duty would not run his head into the
noose by answering the questions
now. All men who were patriotic
would answer the questions, and make
a return of the card. He doubted the
advantage of the census without com-
pulsory compliance to secure the best
results.

Reeve McGregor understood that the
scheme had not been made compulsory
to defer to the opinion of leaders of
labor, who feared compulsory service.

Councillor Grant deprecated giving
attention to so-called representatives

of labor who did not represent the
working men. He thought the Do-
minion and provincial governments
should look into their own nests first.
That Saanich had already done its
best, he thought the director of Na-
tional Service would admit.
Councillor Carey thought the council
could assist by each ward representa-
tive obtaining information in his own
district.
Councillor Jones said since compul-
sion had not been decided upon in
making the returns, the citizens must
be coaxed. While as a postmaster he
could see that everyone received his
card, it was impossible to say whether
they were returned to Ottawa.
The council then went on record in
favor of compulsory registration, and
promised to assist the government in
taking the register.

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